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Woman behind every successful woman

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# THE TIMES

No. 64,568

MONDAY FEBRUARY 15 1993

45p

## Major faces Maastricht 'constitutional crisis'

Ministers' confused tactics over the Maastricht Bill have increased the chances of a Commons defeat. Ulster unionists may join Euro-rebels in voting for Labour's social chapter amendment

By JILL SHERMAN AND JONATHAN PRYNN

MINISTERS were warned last night that a constitutional crisis would be triggered if the government tried to bypass Parliament to ratify the Maastricht treaty by invoking the Crown prerogative.

Reports yesterday said the prime minister was preparing to ratify the treaty without the social chapter, even if the Commons voted to adopt it. Downing Street refused to confirm or deny reports in several Sunday newspapers which suggested that Mr Major would invoke a royal prerogative to get the bill through.

Officials said the vote would be won but referred pointedly to a statement made by Douglas Hurd last week which said "there was no question of our ratifying a treaty other than the one we negotiated". But

underlined the fragility of the government's position by saying they might vote for the Labour amendment.

Labour later warned of up-roar if attempts were made to by-pass Parliament by "trickery". George Robertson, shadow foreign minister, said: "If the government overrules the Commons vote on the social chapter by invoking the royal prerogative, it will be an historic betrayal of Parliament." Tory rebels insisted that the tactics would not deter them from supporting Labour.

Kenneth Clarke, home secretary, said the government was intent on ratifying the treaty without the social chapter, at all costs, but failed to say what the it would do if the amendment was passed. In an interview on television before the question of the royal prerogative was raised, Mr Clarke appeared to back down from last week's warnings that the treaty would be wrecked. It was essential for Britain to ratify the treaty to continue as a full participating member of the Community, he said.

A leading constitutional expert rejected claims that the government could bypass Parliament. Bernard Rudden, professor of comparative law at Brasenose College, Oxford, said the 1978 European parliament elections act required British parliamentary approval for any treaties or protocols that increased the powers of the European parliament.

Enactment of the provisions of the social chapter would require substantial European parliament involvement and would trigger the 1978 act, Professor Rudden said. The protocol involved Britain "giving permission to the 11 to use the EC law-making mechanism, so the protocol gives powers to the European Parliament".

His view contradicted those of other academics. Michael Zander, professor of law at LSE, said it had always been the constitutional position that treaties were signed and ratified by the executive. "There's no need for Parliament to ratify the treaty or ratify approval by the government, so the government can go ahead without it," he said.

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several MPs were convinced the government was privately employing another tactic to stop Tory rebels voting with Labour on the critical amendment 27, which aims to reverse Britain's opt out from the social chapter.

Last week Mr Hurd's remarks were interpreted to mean the bill and the treaty would be wrecked if MPs voted to adopt the social chapter. That tactic served only as a green light to Tory rebels to support the amendment.

Ministers, aware of the government's 21 majority and desperate to ward off a Tory defeat, appeared yesterday to be totally confused as to the message they should put forward. The Ulster unionists

## MOTHER'S ANGUISH AS POLICE FIND BOY'S BODY



Tears of grief: Denise Bulger, who was told by police that a body found yesterday on a railway embankment near Anfield, Merseyside, may be her missing two-year-old son, James. She last saw him on Saturday. Page 3

## Social workers accused of cover-up in Orkney case

By RAY CLANCY

ACCUSATIONS of a cover-up in the Orkney child sex abuse case last night led to calls for a new enquiry. Documents uncovered by The Times show that the extent of the collusion by social workers has remained hidden because of the narrow remit of the £6 million public inquiry chaired by Lord Clyde, which found that those involved had acted in "good faith".

The documents show that professionals involved in the case hatched an action plan to remove children from the islands, held secret meetings and deliberately flouted statutory child care procedures.

Members of Orkney Islands Council are calling for the resignation of some officials including Paul Lee, the social work director, and Ron Gilbert, chief executive, in the light of the new revelations two years after the drama. Raids that snatched nine children from their beds on South Ronaldsay.

Among those who stood up to the social workers is Katherine Kemp, Reporter to the local children's panel and the first person to whom child referrals are made. She and other members of the panel are talking for the first time about the pressure they were under to toe the social workers' line.

If Mrs Kemp, who was suspended for more than a year while key decisions were taken, had not been removed, the tragedy may never have happened.

The documents, which include minutes of case conferences, social work reports and independent assess-

ments of the children, as well as letters, cast doubt on the local authority's ability to carry out its statutory functions.

Another scandal involving millions of pounds being spent on a new ferry terminal which is unlikely ever to be used, is adding fuel to the debate amid calls for the resignations of Mr Gilbert and Rowan McCallum, director of legal services, over their part in deeply flawed projects.

Many believe the investigation of the social work department being undertaken by five councillors is not enough to uncover the truth.

Mrs Kemp said last night that a new enquiry was the only way for the whole truth to come out. "Lord Clyde's

Special report on the doubts raised by the Orkney child sex abuse case..... Page 5

remit was very restrictive. There is very much more that needs to be investigated. The only forum for the truth to come out is a court sitting or an enquiry where people like myself, who have confidential information, can speak out."

Ian MacDonald, a councillor on the social work committee, said: "The situation has become impossible in Orkney. When you want to call the council to task you find there has been so much collusion that they start covering up for each other."

He also called for Mr Lee, and Mhairi Trickett, the social work chairman, and Jackie Tait, council convenor, to resign.

## British Muslim threatens to break all of Rushdie's bones

By JAMES LANDALE AND MIKE THEODOULOU

ON THE fourth anniversary of the fatwa which forced Salman Rushdie into hiding, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the spiritual leader of Iran, yesterday issued the death sentence while Dr Kalim Siddiqui, the leader of the self-styled British Muslim parliament, threatened to "break every bone in [Mr Rushdie's] body".

The author said the edict was "a straightforward terrorist threat" and received further backing from the government. Mr Siddiqui said: "I do not want to kill him. We will just break every bone in his body."

Speaking on LBC radio, he said: "If this man does not leave the centre stage and if he doesn't stop insulting us, then ultimately we will have to come and get him."

Ayatollah Khamenei said that the fatwa, issued by the late Ayatollah Khomeini because of the alleged "blasphemies" contained in Mr Rushdie's book, *The Satanic Verses*, was "binding and irrevocable". He said: "Imam Khomeini has thrown an arrow at this impudent apostate. The arrow is moving towards its target and will sooner or later hit it."

"The fatwa... on the apostate Salman Rushdie must be implemented without a doubt, and it shall be implemented. It is the duty of all Muslims who can reach this mercenary writer today to remove this harmful being from the path of Muslims," Tehran radio quoted him as saying.

In a 20-minute address at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, Mr Rushdie, 45, said yesterday that the edict "far exceeds its author's jurisdiction, since it contravenes fundamental principles of Islamic law". He said: "Values and morals are independent of religious faith. Good and evil come before religion. That is where our freedom lies and it is that freedom which the

fatwa threatens and which it cannot be allowed to destroy." A Foreign Office spokesman said that the latest threats were "clearly unhelpful" and that Britain would continue to support all constructive efforts to resolve the issue of the "incitement to murder" Mr Rushdie. "We remain greatly concerned by the continuing failure of the Iranian authorities to repudiate this incitement to murder. It prevents the establishment of full and friendly relations between London and Tehran."

A Muslim foundation which offered more than \$3 million for Mr Rushdie's head also said that the time was ripe for the death sentence to be carried out. Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister, appealed to Western countries to keep the Rushdie issue separate from bilateral relations with Iran.

Tehran plot, page 9

## MPs win chance to spy on the spies

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A PARLIAMENTARY committee to monitor Britain's security services looks certain to be sanctioned by the cabinet later this year.

A team of Foreign Office officials, in consultation with ministers and officials from other departments, is working on a list of options for the body's powers and membership. John Major has approved the principle of lifting some of the secrecy surrounding M15 and M16. The final outline for the committee's role is expected to form part of the legislation, due in the next session, to put M16 and the communications centre, GCHQ, on a statutory basis.

The cross-party Commons home affairs committee recently called for the right to monitor the intelligence services and discussed its proposals with Stella Rimington, head of M15.

The prime minister is understood to share the objec-

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Bobby Moore is treated for cancer

Bobby Moore, captain of the England side that won the World Cup in 1966, yesterday disclosed he had cancer. In a statement, Mr Moore, pictured below, said an operation had been carried out on his colon in April 1991 and therapy was continuing after cancerous cells were identified in his liver. Mr Moore, 51, a former star with West Ham United, said: "Fortunately I have been able to continue leading my normal life and hope to continue doing so. I appreciate everyone's concern and support of my family."



Mr Moore won 108 international caps and since he gave up playing has been involved in football management, radio commentary and business ventures. He returned recently from the United States where he was working on 1994 World Cup projects. Mr Moore is married, and has two grown-up children from a previous marriage.

## Carey challenges Rome

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, has challenged the Roman Catholic Church to respond positively to the Church of England's decision to ordain women priests. In an address that showed he has no intention of moderating his support for women priests, Dr Carey said: "Perhaps we should admit that no one church exhibits the fullness of the Christian life." Dr Carey believes unity with the Catholic church will be more difficult to achieve than ever without a positive response from Rome.

## Sun apologises to Queen

The Sun today makes a front-page apology to the Queen for "unintentionally" causing personal offence by publishing the text of her Christmas message early. The newspaper also offers to give £200,000 to the Save the Children Fund. The climbdown follows a writ on behalf of the Queen which was served on The Sun last Thursday. Chris Davis, assistant editor, said the decision had come from the top. "It is Rupert Murdoch [chief executive of The News Corporation] who feels we should make this handsome gesture."

## Gorilla students rescued

Two Bristol University students were rescued from Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park, which inspired the film *Gorillas in the Mist*, after being trapped in a gun-battle between warring factions. Alistair McNeillage, 26, of Kilmacolin, Strathclyde, and Jocelyn Milner, 24, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, were due to leave the Kariakoo research centre last week after doing research for the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund, set up to save endangered gorillas, but found their path blocked by rival forces.

## Police release mother

Detectives investigating the murder of Stacey Queripel, 7, released her mother Gillianne, 33, without charges last night after detaining her for 87 hours. Stacey was found strangled by a footpath in Bracknell, Berkshire, on January 24. Police thought her necklace had choked her but a second post-mortem five days later showed she had been murdered.

## Major's local shop joins casualties as Brown attacks cuts in aid



Last post: Doug Belcher stands outside the village store and post office he and his wife, Eileen, used to own near the prime minister's home in the Huntingdon constituency. A

bank has repossessed the shop in Great Sukeley, Cambridgeshire, and the couple face losing their home. Tomorrow Bardays Mercantile, which lent the couple £150,000 in

1990, will move to repossess their £80,000 bungalow. Despite the Belchers both being over 60, the bank offered them a 20-year loan at a fixed rate totalling 16.5 per cent. Part of the

loan was secured on the Belchers' bungalow. The bank says it has to go ahead with the legal process of repossession but that it has not decided whether to evict the couple.

## Labour's training challenge

By Jill Sherman  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR challenged the prime minister yesterday over huge cuts in job training places as the government indicated that it could not afford an expensive package of schemes for the jobless and unemployment looked set to rise above three million on Thursday.

Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary, said the government would be presenting a package to help the jobless in a few weeks. The measures, expected to be announced in the Budget and to encompass an element of welfare, would include schemes to "help people use their time as productively as possible", Mrs Shephard said. She stressed that real jobs would have to wait till economic recovery.

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, asked John Major to explain why nearly 100,000 job training places had been cut under his premiership. "I want to know why, despite promises that government investment would rise, we have now discovered that public investment is to be cut by £600m in the coming year and direct investment by £1.7 billion over three years — a 10 per cent fall."

The cabinet committee on unemployment chaired by Lord Wakeham, the Lords' leader, has decided the outlines of the package, Mrs Shephard is finalising the details in consultation with the Chancellor and the prime minister, expected to include an expanded business start-up scheme.



Shephard aims to help jobless be productive

## Dole accelerates in Tory seats

By Philip Bassett  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

## Three million jobless takes on more than symbolic significance as unemployment strikes at the Tory heartland

UNEMPLOYMENT is rising twice as quickly in Conservative constituencies as in Labour ones, according to analysis of joblessness since the general election by *The Times*.

The political threat of unemployment, expected to pass three million in figures to be issued by the government this week, is underlined by the fact that total unemployment in Conservative seats is now only slightly less than the number out of work in Labour seats, traditionally seen as areas of high unemployment.

The continuing rise in unemployment in Tory areas of more than double the rate of increase in Labour areas illustrates the political, as well as economic, difficulties for the government. Ministers are

braced for a further rise this week in numbers out of work and claiming benefit across the South in Tory strongholds.

As well as the prospect of unemployment exceeding three million for the first time in eight years, its relatively fast rise in Tory areas may be a reason why Conservative ministers are putting increasing stress on measures to help the unemployed, which will be unveiled fully in a package next month with the Budget.

Computer analysis by *The Times* shows that, since the general election last April, unemployment in Tory-held constituencies has risen by

12.9 per cent — more than twice the 5.4 per cent increase in Labour seats.

Unemployment in Tory areas, according to the analysis of data held on government computers, has risen by almost 157,000, while in Labour constituencies it has risen by nearly 72,000.

Although most unemployment specialists acknowledge that it is the fear of unemployment, spurred on by its rate of increase, which is at the forefront of voters' worries about joblessness, ministers insist that the rise in unemployment in Conservative areas is from a low base, and that the number

of people out of work in the Tory heartlands remains comparatively low. However, the *Times* analysis shows for the first time that the level of unemployment in Tory areas is now almost equalling the number of jobless in Labour areas.

Unemployment in Tory seats, principally in the South, which had not been touched much by unemployment previously, stands at 1.37 million — only 30,000 behind total unemployment of 1.4 million in Labour seats, often in old industrial areas in the North, Scotland and Wales.

The 2 percentage point gap between Conservative and Labour unemployment contrast with an 8.6 point gap at the time of the election, and a 60-point gap when unemployment started to rise early in 1990.

The gap now is ten times narrower than it was then, when it stood at almost 370,000, and is sharply tighter than the 114,000 gap at the time of the election.

Liberal Democrat area unemployment is just over 80,000. Since unemployment started to rise, the increase in Lib Dem seats has, at 77 per cent, been faster than that in Labour seats, which have seen a 50 per cent rise. In the same period, Conservative area unemployment has risen by more than 140 per cent.

However, Liberal Democrat unemployment has been increasing more rapidly since the election. Its rise of nearly 14 per cent since then may reflect Liberal Democrats' having taken seats from Tories, such as Bath and Devon North, in fast-rising unemployment areas of the South.

## Spies will face close scrutiny

Continued from page 1  
by officials is whether to include peers on the committee as they would be removed from constituency and overtly political pressures.

Former cabinet ministers, especially former home secretaries, could then be included on the committee. MPs, however, would inevitably protest about allowing peers to examine the security services' spending plans.

The home affairs committee rejected a special committee of privy councillors as "a trifle patronising" and ruled out a joint committee for both Houses.

Mr Major may decide to order the committee to report directly to the Cabinet Office rather than to parliament. The Commons would then have less scope for debating and questioning the findings in the reports. However, anything short of a Commons cross-party committee reporting to the House will be unlikely to find favour with the Labour party or the Liberal Democrats.

The honours scrutiny committee of three peers makes its confidential report to Downing Street when vetting names put forward for honours' lists. Although the size of the proposed "spies" committee has not been decided, it is expected to be larger than the honours committee and will not be confined to peers.

## Navy cuts under threat

By Michael Evans  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

ROYAL Navy plans to take more than a dozen frigates and destroyers out of full operational service and put them on reserve status to save money are under threat because of increasing commitments.

HMS *Andromeda*, a Leander class frigate with Exocet and Sea Wolf missiles, will be the first warship to be put on "extended readiness". Its crew will be smaller and it will have only low priority tasks.

The frigate will be put into reserve later this year. Another 13 warships have been earmarked for a similar role, leaving 24 ships to take on priority tasks at the normal state of readiness.

The navy says that, with the ending of the cold war threat from the former Soviet navy, there is no need to keep all frigates and destroyers on full readiness.

Under the government's Options for Change plan for the navy, the number of frigates and destroyers will be cut from about 50 to 38. But the defence ministry has to make extra cuts of more than £1 billion over the next two years, following the Chancellor's Autumn Statement. Since the statement, the navy has taken on a new commitment in the Adriatic.

## Lamont gets mixed message on Budget

By Jonathan Prynn and Jill Sherman

NORMAN Lamont faces an uphill task in preparing what could be his last Budget in March, with backbenchers sharply divided over whether taxes should be raised to tackle the growing public-sector deficit.

A straw-poll of Tory backbenchers carried out by *The Times* has disclosed that, while about half would support an increase in indirect taxes such as VAT and excise duties, the remainder give warning that Mr Lamont raises tax rates at his peril. Most say that the Budget should be aimed at promoting recovery and preventing a convincing strategy to reduce the budget deficit.

One MP suggested that VAT changes could be staged over two to three budgets, but that the Chancellor should make his intentions clear immediately. Almost all agree that the Chancellor should not touch levels of income tax, and there is also widespread support for an extension of capital allowances for investment to help stimulate economic recovery.

Mr Lamont faces the difficulties of sharply rising government borrowing and a feeble economic recovery that remains dangerously vulnerable to shocks such as sharp tax rises.

The government has two chances to address the dilemma this year, because reforms of the financial timetable

means a second budget will be presented in December. Most of the MPs questioned did not expect or want Mr Lamont to deliver the December budget.

The deficit, projected to grow to at least £44 billion next year, has already provoked public calls for higher taxes from senior Conservative party figures. Lord Howe, the former Chancellor, said last month that Mr Lamont should raise taxes "sooner rather than later". However, the view remains unpopular among many backbenchers.

John Watts, chairman of the Commons treasury and civil service select committee, said: "There should be no premature increase in taxes, no further reduction in interest rates and it should be steady as she goes." If there had to be tax rises they should be delayed until there was clear evidence of a strong recovery and they should not affect direct taxes.

John Butcher, MP for Coventry South West and a former chief secretary to the Treasury, said: "The lesson of the Bush demise is that if you raise taxes having promised not to, then you lose the next election."

Ian Bruce, from Dorset south, said the Chancellor's priority should be to not upset the recovery. Any tax changes should be strictly marginal, such as not fully indexing the upper income tax bands, he added.

## Prince finds a special relationship

AL AND Tipper held a quiet little dinner party for the Prince of Wales in Washington on Saturday night during his brief weekend visit to the United States, and Bill and Hillary just happened to drop by.

British Embassy officials had spent days of uncertainty wondering whether President Clinton would find time to meet the prince: no meeting had been asked for by the British, and none had been offered by the White House. There was even a whisper that the president might take a high moral stance and refuse to meet the alleged co-star of *Camillagate*.

But the Americans are a generous and welcoming race. Vice-president Gore hosted an intimate supper party for his

old friend the prince, a long-standing ally on holes in the ozone layer, and the Clintons found time at the last minute to join the gathering. Honour was satisfied on all sides.

But their welcome, low-key and private, did not begin to compare with the reception accorded the prince by 10,000 students, staff and alumni at the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg, Virginia, America's second oldest university, at the culmination of its tercentenary celebrations on Saturday. The assembled college gave the prince a rousing ovation that he has not heard since long before the outbreak of his recent personal difficulties. Tickets issued free for the prince's address on Saturday were reportedly changing

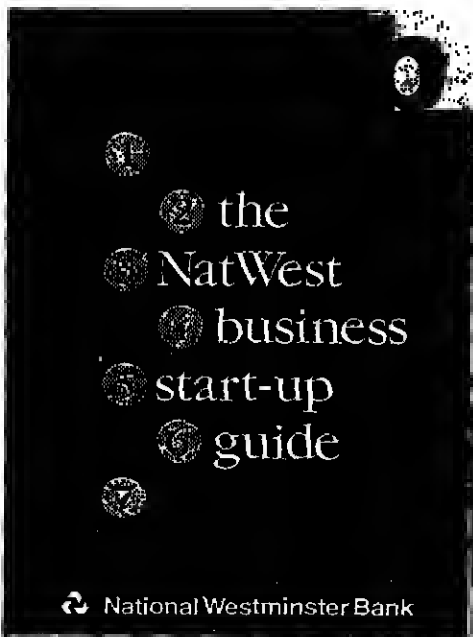
hands for up to \$25. The prince appeared visibly touched by a prolonged standing ovation as he took his seat.

He was jokey, relaxed and more at ease with himself and his audience than he has appeared for many months. His jokes were laughed at, and when he had finished the house erupted yet again.

Students were well aware of the prince's marriage problems, and the *Camillagate* tapes had enjoyed wide circulation on the campus. But their reception was nonetheless generous. "I felt so warm and nostalgic when he entered the room: he reminds us so much of our history, and his marital problems just seem irrelevant to us: he is human, like we are," Nicole Bibbins, an international relations student, said.

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Hunt for two-year-old leads to discovery three miles from shopping precinct where he disappeared

## Body found on rail embankment may be missing boy

By RONALD FAUX

A BODY believed to be that of two-year-old James Bulger was found beside a railway line yesterday evening, 48 hours after he disappeared on a shopping trip with his mother in Bootle, Merseyside.

The body was discovered by two children on a railway embankment behind the Walton Lane police station near Anfield cemetery. James went shopping with his mother on Friday afternoon at the Strand shopping centre. Video security cameras recorded him leaving with two youths. His body was found about three and a half miles away.

Police broke the news of the find to James's parents Denise, 25, and Ralph, 26, at Marsh Lane police station, where they had spent much of the past two days.

Chief Inspector Geoff McDonald said the last sighting of James was about an hour after his disappearance and a mile away at the Breeze Hill reservoir, Walton.

"We had a sighting about 4.30 on Friday evening near a covered reservoir. A woman saw a small boy answering James's description with two other boys. The woman approached the youths and

asked them who the boy was. They said they had just found the child and then they walked off. The woman was quite satisfied the boy was happy to be with the two youths."

Mr McDonald said that if James had been abducted then it was an opportunistic act. It might be, he said, that the boys were infatuated by the affection of the child and had walked off with him.

Teams of detectives studied hours of video tape taken by 15 security cameras at the shopping centre in Bootle. Video stills taken every three seconds give a precise picture

of when he disappeared.

At 3.37 Mrs Bulger is seen entering the shopping centre and going into a butcher's shop. At 3.38 James is seen wandering out of the shop towards another department store. At 3.39 Mrs Bulger is seen searching for James. At 3.41 another camera picked out James walking across Mons Square following two boys, who appeared to be beckoning to him. At 3.42 James is seen walking hand in hand with one of the boys towards the shopping centre exit and a minute later the toddler is seen at the front door of the shopping centre with the boys.

They appear to be walking in the direction of Liverpool. More than 100 police officers had taken part in a widespread search, and police divers were drafted in to examine the reservoir where James was last seen. Police helicopters hovered over derelict buildings and officers on the ground searched buildings where homeless youngsters are said to sleep rough.

At a press conference earlier Denise Bulger broke down in tears as she appealed for the return of her son. "I was buying meat at the butcher's



The video frame showing James being led away

but when I turned round he had gone," she said. James, from Northwood, Kirkby, Merseyside, was shopping with his mother and her friend Nicola Bailey. His father Ralph told the press conference: "It could happen to anyone. She just turned away and the next minute he was gone."

Superintendent Mike Hogarth told the conference: "We can confirm that James, with these young people, left the Strand shopping centre and turned right towards Liverpool. That would actually put them in the vicinity of the

canal, which was being searched by a police underwater unit."

They also had sightings of James by the canal being carried on the shoulders of an older boy.

Mr Bulger described James as "a bubbly kid" who got on with anyone. He would chat to people and had been taught his name and address. If anyone asked him, he would tell them, he said. He was "a good kid".

Last night police officers and a Home Office pathologist were working at the scene where James's body was found.



James Bulger, a trusting two-year-old, who may now be dead

## BA set to announce collapse of profits

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Airways is tomorrow expected to announce that its profits collapsed in the three months to January to little more than £15 million, compared with £100 million in the same quarter of 1992.

The poor results will further undermine morale in the airline as Robert Ayling, its new managing director, attempts to finalise a package of measures to settle the "dirty tricks" dispute with Richard Branson.

The talks between the two airlines are likely to go on for much of this week, delaying the announcement of a new management structure in which those employees considered most culpable in the "dirty tricks" will either be moved out or demoted and a much tighter system of control over the sales and marketing departments introduced.

The talks between BA and Virgin are said by both sides to be progressing well although there are disagreements over the details.

BA is anxious to begin maintaining Virgin's aircraft at its Heathrow engineering base for the first time since 1988 when Mr Branson moved work on his fleet to Dublin after a dispute over delays.

BA is prepared to offer £3 million in compensation for the many occasions on which Virgin was forced to lease

aircraft to meet its flying schedules.

Virgin claims that this is insufficient, but a settlement is likely soon because BA now has plenty of spare capacity and Virgin would prefer to have its jets serviced at Heathrow.

BA is also prepared to help to obtain more take off and landing slots at Heathrow to enable Virgin to expand, but foreign airlines are saying that any deal to swap slots between the two British carriers would be unfair, and possibly illegal.

Virgin is also seeking compensation for the loss of business it incurred from the "switch selling" techniques used by BA staff to persuade Virgin passengers to use BA aircraft. The amount involved is in dispute, and BA has suggested the appointment of an independent arbitrator to assess the losses.

BA is not prepared to pay any further compensation for the "smears" allegedly spread about Virgin's operations, insisting that the £610,000 libel damages and legal fees were sufficient.

The poor results are despite an increase in the number of passengers carried in the autumn. Companies are ordering staff to travel economy instead of first- or business-class, and competition on many of the most popular routes led to special offers.

## Girl left at home may go into care

By A STAFF REPORTER

COUNCILLORS are likely to consider whether the 11-year-old girl found alone at home for herself should be returned to her mother when she returns from a Spanish holiday, it emerged yesterday.

Police are still trying to trace Yasmin Gibson, 34, on the Costa Del Sol.

Social services took Gemma Gibson into care after a neighbour looking after her went into hospital. The older woman living with her, thought to be in her 80s, could not cope. It is not clear whether Ms Gibson, an actress, had made arrangements with neighbours, who had cared for Gemma before. During a telephone call to a neighbour this weekend, Ms Gibson apparently indicated that she intended to continue her holiday.

Members of Hammersmith and Fulham council's social services committee said yesterday they needed to know full details of the case, but that the law required a child's best interests were put first.

Emile al-Uzairi, deputy leader of the Tory opposition group and a member of the committee, said: "The Children's Act emphasises we have to do what is best for the child, and that has tended to mean more children are taken into care or placed in foster care."

## Judge tells Guppy he faces lengthy prison sentence

By BILL FROST

DARIUS Guppy, the old Etonian who was best man to Earl Spencer, the Princess of Wales's brother, is awaiting sentence after being found guilty of three counts of fraud and conspiracy.

The jury, which returned verdicts on Saturday afternoon after a three-month trial and more than two days' deliberation, had heard how Guppy had boasted of pulling off "the perfect crime" after organising a fake robbery while visiting New York with his partner Benedict Marsh.

The pair had taken out a £1.8 million insurance policy with Lloyd's of London to cover a trip on which they would supposedly be selling jewels in America. They paid Peter Risdon, an acquaintance, £10,000 to stage a bogus raid, stealing the gems from their hotel safe and leaving them tied up on their beds to enact what James Curtis, for the prosecution, described as "a quite brilliant performance" reporting the "theft" to the New York police.

Rakish, arrogant, gifted and good looking, Darius Guppy recruited an army of detractors and enemies as he cruised from achievement to achievement. A top first at Oxford in



Darius Guppy: boasted of "perfect crime"

modern history and French literature, Guppy treated most of the prosecution witnesses to a sneer of withering disdain from the dock. Only moments before he was found guilty, Guppy was entertaining reporters with denials of any infatuation with the Princess of Wales. "We have never kissed. There are no pictures of Diana and myself. There is no Guppygate tape," he said.

During the two-day wait for the jury to return, Guppy told reporters: "I am not afraid of going to jail." Guppy and Marsh still await trial on further charges of gold-smuggling, but Judge Andrew Brooks told the pair: "I do not want you to leave the dock

with any illusions at all. I want you to know that you are both going to prison for a very long time."

After three months listening to the evidence of 67 witnesses from 18 countries and hearing that Guppy threatened to kill one Guppy witness and then bribed him with £20,000 to leave Britain before the case came to trial, the jury returned 10-2 majority verdicts against Guppy and Marsh on charges of conspiracy to defraud, and unanimous guilty verdicts on charges of conspiracy to steal and conspiracy to commit false accounting.

Acquaintances denounced Guppy. A contemporary at Magdalen said: "You can be too handsome, too clever and too successful. Such gifts sometimes place you beyond other people's moral framework - you think you are able to get away with anything by using your brain and your good looks."

With such a pedigree, Guppy was probably marked out for an interesting career. At his wedding Earl Spencer said of his best man: "I knew Darius would be a 'millionaire or would have visited the cells by the time he was 30.'"

Diary, page 14

## Take a good look. It's the last you'll ever see of it.

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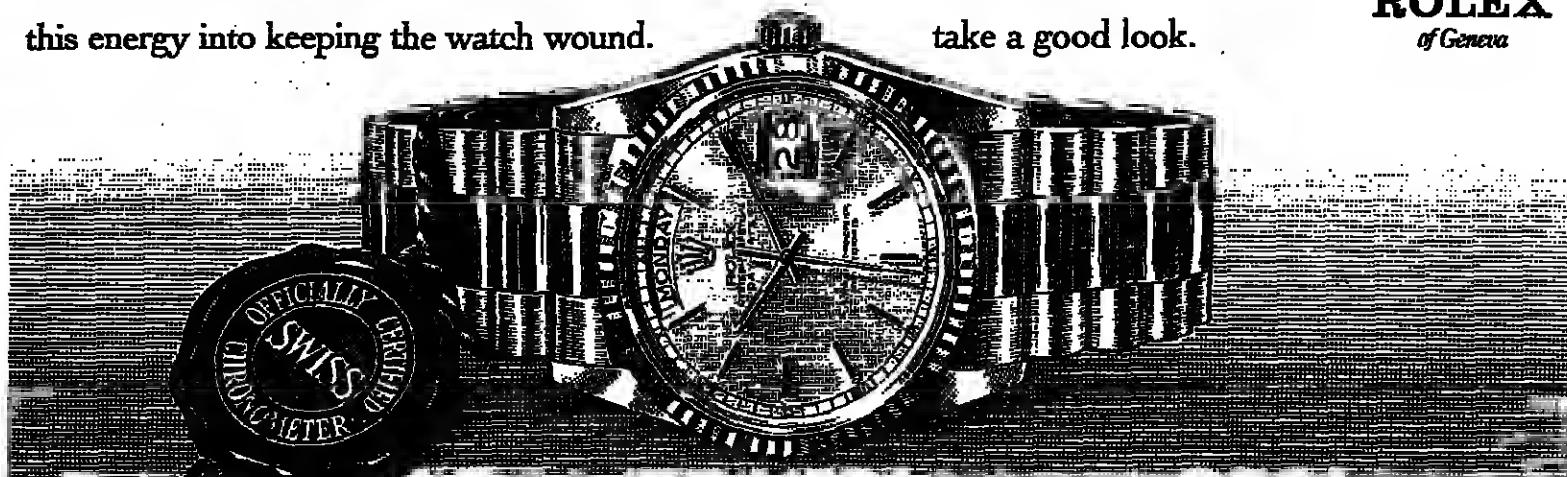
that if, at any stage during the process, a part is rejected by one of our inspectors it is not only because of any minor inaccuracy, but also for aesthetic reasons.

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Fresh  
Orkney  
reopen



Did you  
whether  
Grant-maintained  
Have  
GM status?



Two years after nine children were snatched from their beds, the anguish continues

# Fresh evidence on Orkney home raids reopens old wounds

By RAY CLANCY

TWO years after a cavalcade of unmarked police cars snaked across the salt-sprayed Churchhill barriers that link South Ronaldsay with the main Orkney islands to take nine children from their beds at dawn, accusations of collusion and a cover-up by social workers are leading to calls for a new enquiry.

On Orkney, the feelings of outrage and injustice are as strong as ever. The nine youngsters, still bearing the emotional scars of being separated from parents accused of being part of an organised child sex ring, are trying to carry on normally. Other children, who allegedly told social workers about orgies in a remote quarry, are still in care.

The whole truth has never emerged and the people who live on this beautiful archipelago are not prepared to speak out. Behind closed doors they freely discuss the scandal, but the only sign of disdain is their refusal to acknowledge those regarded as responsible in the checkout queues at the local supermarket.

As the old wounds are reopened, there have also been calls for a number of resignations, including that of Mhairi Trickett, the Orkney social work chairman, and Jackie Tait, the Islands Council convenor.

An investigation by *The Times* has found that the decision to remove nine children in the dawn raids was the direct result of earlier judgments that were not examined fully by the judicial inquiry headed by Lord Clyde.

Social workers in Orkney met officials from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in 1989. They formulated a plan to deal with the "W" family, living on South Ronaldsay, whose father had already been jailed for sexually abusing some of his 15 children.

It was alleged that disclosures by some of the W children implicated another four families. Nine children from these families were taken away on February 27, 1991. That raid, the suffering caused to the families and the subsequent £6 million enquiry all could have been avoided.

The action plan took shape at a case conference on July 17, 1989, in Kirkwall to examine whether the W children should continue to be on the "at risk" register. A few days earlier an Orkney children's panel hearing had decided, after an eight-hour session, that some of the children in care on the mainland should return home. They had been removed under a place-of-safety order

**The full truth about the Orkney sex abuse case has still not been told, long after the dawn raids that were to change the lives of many island families**

following allegations by one that she had been sexually abused by a brother.

However, at the case conference, social workers from the RSSPCC, Highland Region and Orkney decided to ignore the local panel's decision. The RSSPCC social workers had been studying contentious theories about ritual abuse from America based on an assumption by Roland Summit that abused children can take years to reveal what has happened and should be constantly questioned even when they deny abuse.

The Summit theory is now seen by experts as one of the main reasons for the Orkney children being taken away from their parents.

The case conference heard that there was no evidence to support the allegations of inter-sibling abuse, but it was decided that the children should remain separated.

Norman Dunning, the RSSPCC divisional manager, said they should ignore the panel decision, an irregular procedural move. The minutes of the meeting say: "His advice, in view of the fact that the decision of the children's panel could not be challenged, was to procrastinate and not to carry out the decision." Both Mr Dunning and Michelle Miller, an Orkney social worker, said further disclosures of abuse would be impossible if the children returned home.

There is little mention in the minutes of the rights of the children and the need to keep families together, whenever possible. "The meeting also brought to a head what some now regard as a sub-plot to discredit the local children's panel and its Reporter, Katherine Kemp. In Scotland the Reporter, appointed by the secretary of state, is the first person to whom any child referrals are made and the one who decides whether cases should go to a hearing presided over by a three-member lay panel.

In Orkney, the panel chairman had insisted that the children should appear at hearings, but this meant they would have contact with their mother, which the social workers wanted to avoid because they were sticking to the Summit theory. A few months later, in March 1990, Mrs Kemp was locked out of her office and suspended. Ron Gilbert, the council's chief executive, applied to the Scottish secretary for consent to dismiss her. Mrs Kemp re-

mained suspended for over a year while the council and the Scottish Office delayed hearing her case. The secretary of state eventually ordered her reinstatement. Gordon Sloan was appointed interim Reporter and presided over the remaining hearings.

Letters obtained by *The Times* show that the issue could have been resolved much more quickly. Mrs Kemp wrote to the Scottish secretary in April 1990 warning him that the child care system in Orkney had collapsed. Clearly she had stood in the way of the plans formulated at the 1989 case conference.

Dr David Reid, consultant paediatrician with the Medical Institute for Research into Child Cruelty, said: "Mrs Kemp was just about the only sane person left in this case. The worst child abuse scandal in Britain would never have happened if she had remained in her job."

Eileen Laughton, who had more than ten years' experience on the panel, struggled to keep control of the situation. "There was a lot of pressure but it did not frighten me into making the decisions that they [social workers] wanted. They wanted the kids away for ever. They were all in collusion; they all agreed."

In August 1989, Mr Dunning wrote a scathing attack on the panel and the Reporter. He claimed that the panel had ignored the serious nature of the allegations, had delayed over requests for referral to a sheriff and had deliberately excluded Michelle Miller from a hearing. Yet until this time, the panel and social work department had been functioning normally. Criticisms of the panel and Mrs Kemp surfaced only after the RSSPCC became involved.

In February 1990, Paul Lee



Trapped by a tide of official injustice: one of the South Ronaldsay families torn apart by the Orkney child abuse scandal



Gilbert: applied for consent to dismiss child panel official



Mackenzie: minister who with wife helped the "W" family



Trickett: calls for her resignation



Lord Clyde: remit of his £6m enquiry said to be too narrow

was appointed director of social work with the task of reorganising the department. "He sent a report to all social workers in which he stressed the need for being "an effective, caring organisation, sensitive to the needs of individuals and the community". Social workers should "protect the vulnerable" and be committed

to "the rights of individuals and families to choose".

Mr Lee then appears to have stood back while these recommendations were ignored and flouted by his own department.

The W children were eventually returned home under supervision orders, but the back-up help recommended

by the panel, which was supposed to include a home help and regular visits from social workers, never materialised.

A number of neighbours on South Ronaldsay had rallied round to help Mrs W, including the Rev Morris MacKenzie and his wife Jan. Mr and Mrs "M" and the "T" family. These families, whose child-

ren were taken in the dawn raids, still cannot be identified for legal reasons.

In October 1990, the children's panel met for the annual review of the W family, but there had been a number of significant changes. Not only had Mrs Kemp been suspended, but the pressures exerted on the panel from the social work department and the RSSPCC contributed to the resignation of Philip Cooper, the panel chairman. He is still employed by the council as a teacher and has never spoken publicly about his reasons for leaving.

The council began a recruitment drive which led to the appointment of new panel members, and various people believe the social work department was securing positions for panel members who were less likely to prevent the department taking any action it wanted.

Soon after, one of the W children was taken into care

after she told a teacher that her brothers had been sexually abusing her and her sisters. Five days later another seven W children were also taken into care, although no charges have ever been brought.

The W children were questioned constantly. Transcripts of taped interviews show the extent to which social workers were prepared to go. Dr Bill Thompson, a criminologist at Reading University who is studying the case, said: "The questions were not only leading, but they induced certain answers. They had convinced themselves that there was something to find and they went out to prove it."

It was decided to remove the nine children from home. When social workers from Strathclyde were called in to help, they expressed doubts about the evidence. They were excluded from secret meetings and were denied information. The social workers had gone too far.

## TIMETABLE OF ALLEGATIONS AND ACTIONS THAT TORE FAMILIES APART

- June 22, 1989: Eight W children taken from home amid allegations of inter-sibling abuse. Put into care on mainland.
- July 13: Hearing in Kirkwall decides that children should be returned to Orkney under supervision.
- July 17: Social workers from Orkney, Highland Region and the RSSPCC hold case conference in Kirkwall where action plan is hatched and children's hearing decision ignored.
- August: RSSPCC writes to Orkney Islands Council and Scottish secretary criticising the Reporter and panel. Allegations found not proven by Scottish Office, which re-instates Reporter.
- March 27, 1990: Katherine Kemp, Reporter to the Children's Panel, suspended without reasons being given.
- April 4: Mrs Kemp writes to Scottish secretary to warn him that the system in Orkney has collapsed.
- November 1: One of the W girls taken into care.
- November 6: Another seven W children taken into care. Social workers claim children disclosed evidence of ritualistic sex ring involving four other families and the Rev Morris MacKenzie.
- February 27, 1991: Nine children taken from homes in South Ronaldsay.
- April 4: The nine return home after

Sheriff David Kelbie throws out the case as "fatally flawed".

□ April 19: Ian Lang, Scottish secretary, announces full judicial enquiry.

□ April 23: Mr Lang rejects the case against Mrs Kemp and she is re-instated as Reporter.

□ August 26: Public enquiry opens in Kirkwall under Lord Clyde. finishes in May after 135 days of evidence.

□ October 27, 1992: Clyde's report concludes that those involved acted in "good faith". Orkney Islands Council accepts conclusions and promises to "rebuild bridges" with the local community. No resignations.



## Grant-maintained schools. Your questions answered.

Did you know that parents can vote on whether their children's school applies to go grant-maintained (GM)?

Have you thought about your school seeking GM status?

Do you know what it means? Would you like to have more information?

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So, to answer any questions you may have,

the Department for Education has set up a special helpline for parents.

You can call it free at any time to have your questions answered or request information booklets.

If you'd like to know more about GM schools, don't hesitate to call.

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INFORMATION APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY





## London's CrossRail tunnel undermines the foundations of Tory support in the heart of the city

## Not under my back yard...

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE rich and the powerful, the great and the good, are polishing their swords to engage the government in a battle which threatens to alienate some of the Conservative Party's most influential supporters.

Every lord and lady, knight and dowager duchess, agree that the CrossRail project, designed to relieve traffic congestion and pressure on rail lines through London by boring a six-mile train tunnel beneath the heart of the capital, is a good thing. But not, thank you, in their back yard.

The scheme, which will involve many landmark buildings being demolished, threatens to affect 140 listed buildings on its route from Paddington through Mayfair to the City. More than 300 protest petitions have been lodged in Parliament. The route will run beneath Bayswater Road, Hyde Park, Park Lane, Regent Street, High Holborn, Woburn Place, Farringdon Road and Moorgate.

The Residents Association of Mayfair, whose members include members Charles Saatchi, the advertising executive, and Lord Richardson of Dunstons, a former governor of the Bank of England, is pledged to fight the proposal.

Ronald Jones, director and general manager of Claridge's, is horrified by the prospect of 100 lorries a day carrying spoil from Hanover Square, which will be used as a work site, trundling past the famous hotel. "The prospect is appalling and we will fight as hard as we can," he said.

Sir Michael Clapham, chairman of the residents' association, says British Rail and London Underground, which are responsible for the scheme, pulled a "fast one" by introducing it to Parliament under the private bill procedure, which has been discontinued in favour of a

more democratic system which allows public enquiries. "They are taking advantage of 19th century legislation to override current planning procedures and impose their scheme on 21st century London," he said.

The Theatres Trust has also joined the battle, saying that the tunnels could have a serious effect because the stalls level in most West End theatres is well below ground. They say that at most risk from disruption are the London Palladium, Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's New London Theatre, the Shaftesbury, the Phoenix, the Cochrane and the Holborn Centre.

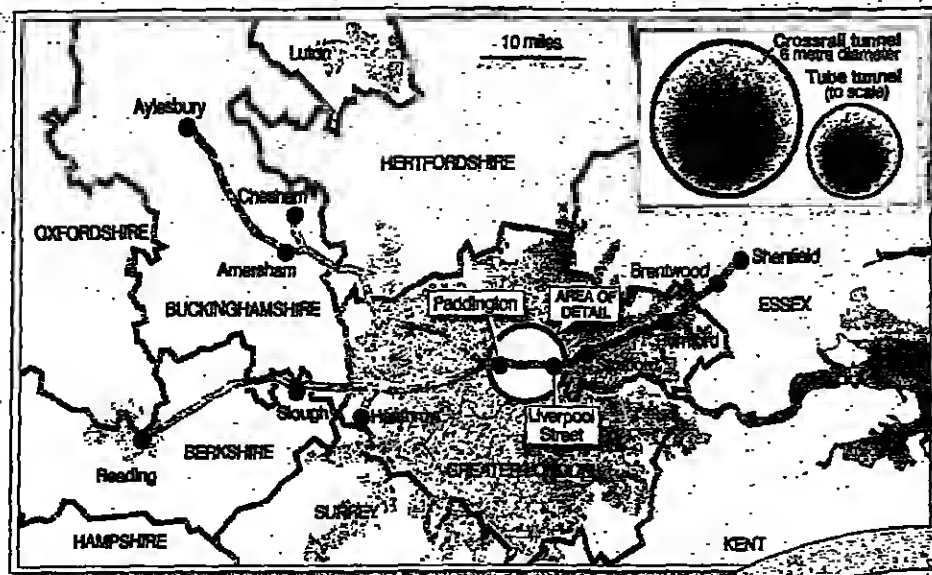
English Heritage says that the House of St Barnabas, Greek Street, which it describes as one of the best Georgian houses in London, will be at risk. Westminster council will join English Heritage in fighting the power which the private bill gives to override building consents and to alter and to demolish listed properties.

The £1.7 billion project, designed to carry 26,000 passengers east and west at peak times, threatens to disrupt for up to five years the lives of dukes and ordinary travellers.

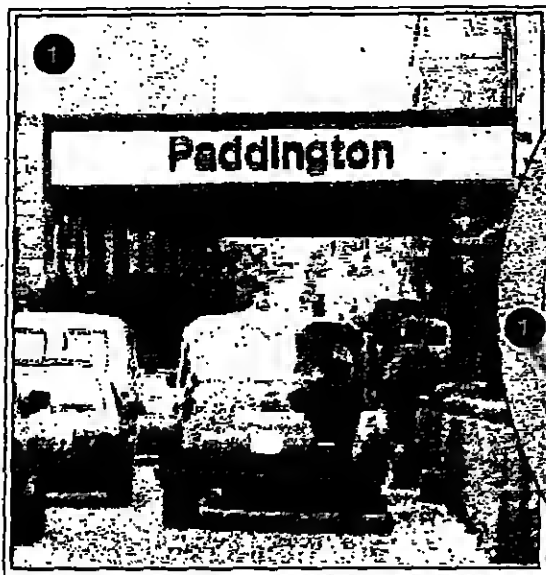
The private bill promoting CrossRail is expected to have its second reading within the next month after which it will head for the committee stage, where the protest petitions will have to be heard. The whole committee stage process is expected to take up to nine months and MPs are already said to be fighting not to be picked to serve on it.

The rail link is due to open at the turn of the century and will offer a service to travellers from Aylesbury and Reading in the west through to Stratford and Sheffield in the east. CrossRail says disruption is inevitable.

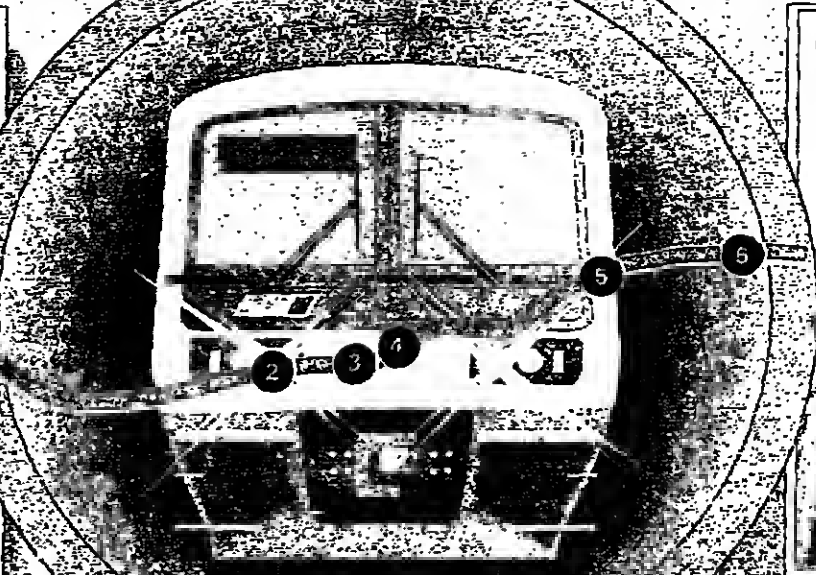
## CROSSRAIL: THE PRICE TO BE PAID



General disturbance and loss of amenity caused by the use of part of Finsbury Circus gardens as a work site for up to five years. Hoardings will reduce noise levels.



Paddington



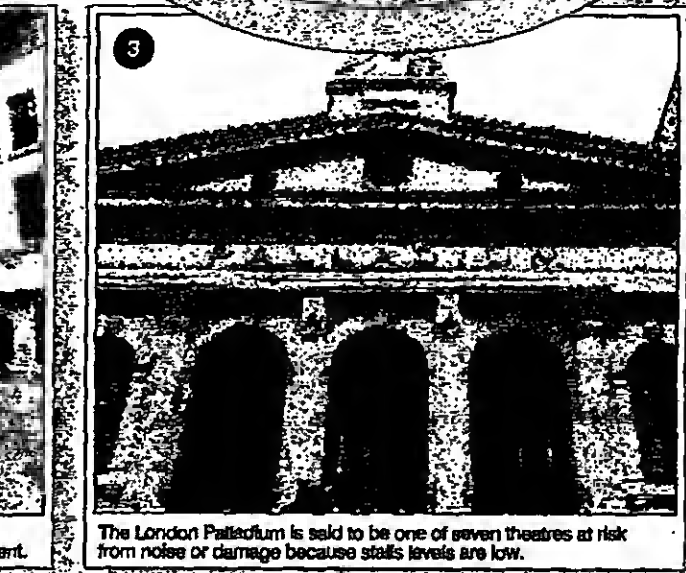
Eastbourne Terrace, which skirts the station, will suffer from noise pollution and congestion from up to 200 lorries a day.



Cardinal House and other properties will be demolished with 130 lorries a day during peak of platform construction.



The Hog in the Pound pub and 27 South Molton Street, will be demolished and listed buildings specially protected from settlement.



The London Palladium is said to be one of seven theatres at risk from noise or damage because stalls levels are low.



Disruption in Soho because of demolition and redevelopment for new ticket hall at Tottenham Court Road.

## Doubts on female condom

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE female condom is a welcome development but is difficult to use and unattractive, the Consumers' Association publication *Drugs and Therapeutics Bulletin* reports today.

The device, marketed as Femidom by Charité, a British company, is shaped like a male condom but is designed to line the vagina. Used only once, the female condom is claimed to be an effective contraceptive and a barrier against infection by the Aids virus.

The Consumers' Association says that efficacy is hard to judge, as only one trial has been published, involving 106 women who were monitored for 441 months. Seven pregnancies occurred, giving the female condom a failure rate no better than that of the male condom or the diaphragm.

Charité claims that about two thirds of men and women find Femidom acceptable, but the *Bulletin* cites studies showing that most women who use it have found insertion difficult. In one study half stopped using the device because they found that it made intercourse unsatisfactory.

Other complainants found the condom uncomfortable, cold, noisy or "aesthetically unacceptable". Men said that they preferred it to the male condom. Breakage rates were low, at a tenth of one per cent.

Dr Joe Collier, editor of the *Bulletin*, said: "Women who want advice about Femidom should be told of the uncertainties about its use in comparison with other methods of contraception and given practical advice on how to use it."

"Women wanting to shift from the pill or the coil should be advised to experiment for a while before making the final decision."

More studies were urgently needed to show Femidom's effectiveness against conception or infection when it is bought over the counter and used with limited instructions and without a spermicide, the

## Owners let homes fall into disrepair

BY RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE number of unfit and substandard homes in Britain has risen from 900,000 in 1986 to more than 1.3 million in 1991.

The increase will be revealed in the English House Conditions Survey to be published by the environment department later this year. Housing experts said that the real figure may be higher. Nick Wilson, from the Institution of Environmental Health Officers, which represents 8,500 health officers in the public and private sector, said: "The figure is probably an underestimate, and we expect the real figure to be closer to two million."

Mr Wilson said the decline in the nation's housing stock was partly because of the increase in home-ownership. "There are many more owner-occupiers, many of whom bought under right-to-buy legislation, but others too in the private sector, who cannot budget now to include improvements and upgrading along with mortgage repayments."

Rising unemployment and

job insecurity had combined with falling house prices to make people disinclined to invest in declining assets, Mr Wilson said.

The Federation of Master Builders says that spending on repairs and maintenance has fallen from about £5 billion in the 1980s to about £3.6 billion last year.

In the public sector there has also been a decline in housing conditions because of a sharp fall in local government improvement grants, from 219,800 in 1983 to 28,200 in 1991, Mr Wilson said.

Grants distributed by the Housing Corporation, the government quango that funds low-cost housing for rent, favour new house-building rather than refurbishment of poor stock. Capital Action, the land economy specialist, calculates that the rehabilitation of older properties has fallen from 60 per cent of association programmes before 1988 to 20 per cent now.

Shelter, the housing charity, says it could cost £2 billion to catch up with repairs.

## Hunting Britain's smallest deer with hounds attacked as barbaric

BY MICHAEL HORNSEY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

HUNT officials have been criticised for encouraging the chasing of roe deer, a sport that has not been pursued in Britain for more than half a century.

Anti-hunt activists regard the hunting of the deer, which is the smallest native species, as particularly barbaric. The hunters argue that they are providing a valuable service to farmers by helping to keep the rapidly increasing number of roe deer down.

The Masters of Deer Hounds Association, the sport's governing body, recently recognised two packs of beagles and basset-hounds that are hunting roe deer on the western fringe of Exmoor national park. Anti-hunt groups fear that the move will encourage deer-hunting with dogs in other parts of the country.

Dick Lloyd, the association's chairman, said: "It is a perfectly fair sport and the hounds are well supported, mainly on foot. It has been long estab-



Roe deer: hunted with beagles and bassets

lished in France, where there are more than 70 roe deer hunting packs. The French use foxhounds, which are much bigger dogs. The roe has a low scent and is an elusive quarry which escapes as often as not."

Previously, hunting deer with dogs has been confined to the large red deer that roam Exmoor and the Quantock Hills in Somerset and the New Forest in Hampshire.

Farmers, who see the deer as pests, are usually happy to

allow their land to be used by the hunts. The deer, once they have been brought to bay by the hounds, are shot at close quarters.

In the rest of the country wild deer are culled by shooting. Doreen Cronin, secretary of the Devon and Somerset Residents' Association for Deer Protection, said: "We accept the need for shooting, provided it is done by trained marksmen, but it is disgusting that hunt officials should be supporting the chasing of these tiny roe deer when public feeling against all hunting with hounds is growing."

In late 1990, members of the National Trust voted by a narrow majority to ban deer hunting on all trust land, a move that would effectively end stag hunting in the Quantocks and severely hamper it on Exmoor and in the New Forest. But the vote, in which less than 7 per cent of the trust's two million membership took part, was not binding on its ruling council.

The council played for time by setting up an expert working party to examine, among other things, the hunting

lobby's claim that if hunting were banned the deer on Exmoor and the Quantocks would suffer much worse persecution from farmers, who would shoot them because of the damage they do to crops and woodland.

The working party is expected to report in April. One of its members, Ruth Blok, who chairs the Hampshire branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said:

"There is no doubt that roe deer can do an incredible amount of damage, for example to winter fodder crops. They are by nature browsers and will take a bite out of every turnip in a field."

"Is it true that farmers tolerate deer only because they are hunted? If so, could we expect farmers to start taking pot shots at every deer they see, as they would legally be able to do, if hunting was banned? Is that what people want to see happen?"

"These are some of the questions we are trying to answer. We will make recommendations, but the final decision will rest with the National Trust's council."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Pregnant woman hurt in chase

A pregnant woman was hurt after a stolen car hit a stationary taxi in a 90mph chase. She was in a Fiesta XR2 pursued by police for six miles through Bradford, West Yorkshire. After hospital treatment, she was yesterday questioned by police, as was the male driver.

The chase began on Saturday night when a couple drove off from a public house car park in the car, which police had been watching and said bore false registration plates.

A man was held after a chase across several counties ended early yesterday in a nine-car crash on the M4 near Chiswick, west London. Police used a rolling road block to slow an Audi 80 Sport driven at up to 120mph along the M4 into London. It had been reported stolen in Hampshire and was picked up by police on the M4 in Wiltshire.

## Murder charge

Lee McSwan, 22, of Boscombe Down, Wiltshire, is due before magistrates at Salisbury today accused of murdering his son, Wesley Syme McSwan, five months.

## Fire deaths

A woman aged 35 and her two-year-old son died in a fire at their home in west Belfast.

## Rave barred

Over 40 people were arrested when police prevented a rave party at a factory unit at Leichworth, Hertfordshire.

## Bolder 'five'

The £5 note is to be made more recognisable, with the "£5" in bolder colours.

## Bond winners

Winners in the weekly premium bond draw: £100,000, bond 2MP 233957, holder from Leicestershire (value of holding, £1,086); £50,000, 2SVL 933317, Hertfordshire (£8,930); £25,000, 28PB 534981, Essex (£10,000).

## Ill-fated Morris Ital to hit the road again in China

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

UNLOVED by motorists and best relegated to the annals of British auto manufacture as the last Morris to be built, the Ital car is to be born again with a "Made in China" stamp on its unmemorable bodywork.

The Morris Ital, which disappeared in 1982, was descended from the hapless Marina, one of the cars which helped to drive the old British Leyland company to the brink of bankruptcy. But Rover has pulled off a trade coup by selling off the entire Ital assembly line to the Chengdu Automobile Factory in China's northwestern Sichuan province.

While the world's car manufacturers clamour to sell exciting high technology cars

to Third World markets, Rover has been helping the Chinese build a factory which starts manufacturing the Morris Ital in the next few weeks.

The Chengdu factory will make around 2,500 Itals this year at the start of a production run expected to double in 1994. Rover has packaged all 1,300 press tools used on the Ital assembly lines at Cowley, Oxford, and shipped them to China.

The contract, understood to be worth about £1.5 million, also requires Rover to give technical assistance to help the Chinese to develop the car to run on their poor quality roads.

A team of specialists from Cowley has been in China



Unloved and unmixed: the short-lived Morris Ital

over the past year organising the assembly and positioning of the production lines. The Chinese are starting by making a pick-up van and an estate car before moving on

to the saloon, using a Chinese-made engine. About 130,000 Itals were made during a two-year production run at the plant at Cowley. It was an attempt to rescue the

Marina of the mid-1970s, which has been nominated as one of the world's worst cars with a magnificent reputation for unreliability. However, a new body style and name did not help. Inside BL, the joke was that the Ital was a Marina that worked.

Out with the Ital went the Morris badge, taken from the name of Sir William Morris, later Lord Nuffield, who started the company.

The Chinese-made Ital is not allowed to carry the historic badge, used since the first Morris Oxford in 1913, although the car will be unmistakably a Morris Ital. It will also be one of a growing band of long-gone British models resurrected around the world.

The original Austin-Morris group which became British

Leyland and then Rover has become expert at moving its old assembly lines to other countries. The Morris Oxford made at Cowley between 1948 and 1959 has resurfaced in Calcutta as the Hindustan Ambassador.

Morris's most famous car, the Minor, is being manufactured in Sri Lanka, while a glass-fibre body version of the Mini - still in production in Britain after 34 years - is made in Venezuela. The Mini Moke, the open-topped Mini made famous by *The Prisoner* television series, is made in Portugal.

The latest to leave will be the Rover Maestro assembly line, destined for Bulgaria, where former military installations will be turned into car factories to produce 46,000 Maestros a year.



# JPs 'hit the better-off too hard with new pay-linked penalties'

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

CONCERN is growing among magistrates and their clerks that middle-income offenders are being hit excessively hard by unfair operation of the new means-related fines system in magistrates' courts. Pressure is increasing on the Home Office to review it.

Justices' clerks maintain that the scheme, which results in offenders paying hugely differing fines for the same offence because of their varying means, is not operating as intended.

Nor, the clerks say, is the scheme being run in the way that it was tested in four pilot projects in courts before the

**Justices' clerks say courts are fining the middle class too heavily. They want more allowances for financial commitments**

legislation, which came into force in October.

Bryan Gibson, clerk to Basingsale magistrates and author of the standard book *Unit Fines*, said that, as implemented by the government, courts assumed a much higher level of disposable income when fixing the fine, compared with the pilot schemes. "People on relatively modest means of £15,000 to £20,000 a year can find themselves paying very high fines - £600 or £800 for speeding, for instance," he said.

Justices' clerks are expected to propose a system of "banding" for people's allowances, so that the more an offender earned, the higher the allowances that courts would take into account when assessing weekly disposable income.

The Home Office rejected such proposals before bringing in the legislation. The clerks' society is also setting up a new project in four courts to monitor the impact of the fines.

Similar concern within the 29,000-strong Magistrates' Association has led to the setting up of a working party to assess the scheme and report to the Home Office. Jane Gummer, the working party chairman, said that magistrates supported the principle of the scheme, which "must be fairer" than the old system, but needed "fine tuning".

Some of the most extreme fines, both high and low, have already hit the headlines: a pensioner had to pay £1,300 for three minor motoring offences after bumping another car and breaking his headlight, and then driving away.

A widow attacked the scheme after magistrates imposed a £30 fine on a motorist involved in a collision in which her husband was killed. The motorist was "on a very low benefit and put his disposable income at £3 a week".

Stephen Leslie, a barrister, said that lawyers were finding several defects in the scheme. The impact of the new fines had been heightened because on the day they came in, the maximum fine magistrates could impose doubled to £5,000. "That was a very bad miscalculation," he said.

Secondly, there was little check on the accuracy of the means form and if people refused to fill it in, they might be fined far less than their

means would merit because some courts would just impose a low standard fine.

Thirdly, crown courts were not in the scheme, so if someone appealed, the crown court would impose a fine irrespective of means and the tables used by magistrates.

Fourthly, capital was not considered, so someone with a huge property but no income could be fined a pittance.

Fifthly, if two co-offenders committed a crime, the one less involved could end up with the higher fine.

The scheme works by calculating the seriousness of an offence in units, which are then multiplied by an offender's net disposable income.

In pilot projects, fines were far lower because the maximum income courts could use to multiply a unit was £25.



Craft class: pupils learning about rural skills as Tristan Johnson, a thatcher, prepares material for re-roofing Holywell church primary school, at Tawstock, near Barnstaple, one of only two thatched schools in Devon

# Police may copy Australian pay

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE reforms in Australia could be the model for changes to British police pay and conditions, including promotion by merit instead of examinations, fixed contracts, one rank structure for civilians and police, a fast track for talented staff and pay by performance.

A member of the Home Office enquiry into police pay and conditions led by Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman of BAT Industries, is flying to Australia to examine reforms introduced in the Australian federal police and other forces. The enquiry has heard evidence from academics on police reforms in Europe and elsewhere but Australia is the only country which the team will check first hand.

Eric Caines, a member of the team and personnel director of the national health service, will make the trip to examine reforms which began five years ago. Some of the changes in Australia are unlikely to be practical in Britain, such as an end to annual pay awards, but the enquiry is interested in looking at merit pay, ending a poor promotion system and reducing the num-

ber of ranks. The Australian federal police has 2,400 officers and 690 staff. It has a headquarters in Canberra and five regional commands in a force which is 80 per cent plain clothes. It is the main investigative and intelligence unit in Australia, rather like the FBI in America.

Under the reforms the number of ranks were reduced from 11 to seven leaving constables, sergeants, inspectors, superintendents, commanders, assistant commissioners, a deputy commissioner and a commissioner. Length of service was ended as the basis of promotion or pay and there were about 10 per cent redundancies during the changes.

Since 1990 all new staff get a ten-year contract and their renewal depends on performance. Existing staff were given five-year contracts.

Pay is based on salary bands and moving up is linked to an annual appraisal. There are seven pay levels for constables and five for sergeants. In the more senior levels salary ranges allow for upward and downward movement, depending on performance.

# Motorist was fined £1,328

By OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A COMPUTER analyst became one of the latest motorists to be affected by what some say is the injustice of the new system of imposing means-related fines in magistrates' courts.

He had been drinking at lunchtime during Christmas. Early that evening he was driving along the A26 with his father near Crowborough, East Sussex, and lost control of the car on a bend. It overturned but both men escaped serious injury. After a breath test, "Chris" was charged with driving with excess alcohol: he was 16 points over the legal limit.

Chris, 35, who earns £25,000 a year, decided against spending £150 on a solicitor who told him that he would be unable to do anything for him. He pleaded guilty, came before local magistrates last month and was fined £1,328, disqualified for a year and charged £30 costs.

"I accept I was in the wrong. But my criticism is that this system depends on the defendant filling in a form as to means and there seems to be no check on it. Someone else might have been less honest and then been fined a much smaller figure."

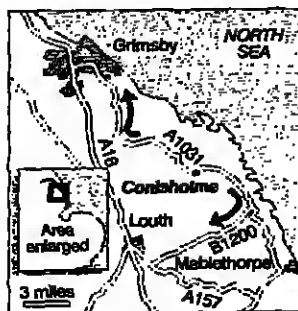
He added: "On the day I was there, no one had received the means forms so we were asked to fill them in then and there. After one minute, and with only half the form filled up, I was asked to go into court."

# Village high street is 40 miles longer

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE villagers of Conisholme in Lincolnshire will today face traffic confusion worthy of the capital during a rail strike. Because of new safety rules, the half mile from one end of the main street to the other can be negotiated only by a 40-mile detour for the next two weeks.

The village bus will take up to an hour to cover what should take a minute and the only shopkeeper fear financial disaster as passing trade goes elsewhere. What is probably the longest road diversion yet comes into force this morning when contractors begin to resurface 800 metres of the



main A1031 Grimsby to Mablethorpe road where it passes through Conisholme, with its 200 souls.

Time was when workmen would have rigged up a set of traffic lights, dug up one side of the road and let drivers fight for the other. Enter the bureaucrats. New regulations stipulate that there must be a 4ft safety corridor between workmen and traffic during single-line working.

The high street of Conisholme is too narrow, so Lincolnshire highways department must close the whole roadway, and in that county's broad acres alternative arterial routes are few.

Nigel King, the Conisholme GP, said: "I'm not sure how we are going to cope, but it's going to be very difficult." His surgery is at the southern end of the 80-home village and he hopes to persuade farmers to let him use their tracks. Some have already announced they will block them to stop motorists taking short cuts. "It could take an extra hour to reach someone who is seriously ill and there is also the extra cost," Dr King said.

A county council spokesman said: "We are aware it is going to cause great problems but we have to abide by the regulations." He expects locals will use the myriad single-track lanes around the village, but the official detour must be able to handle big commercial vehicles.

The way it isn't  
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Steve Platt  
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Nor does he root  
For the pin-striped suit.

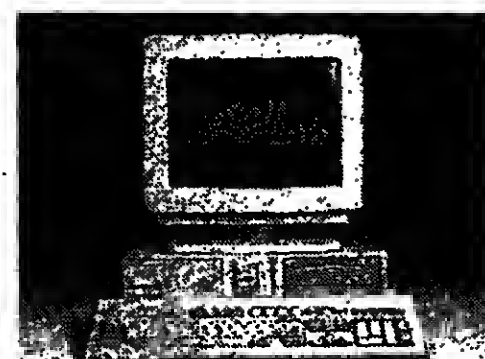
Sir Edward Heath  
Takes good care of his  
teeth  
But I doubt he'll flash 'em  
again  
At Saddam Hussein.

Bob Dylan  
Is makin' a killin'  
Singin' "Don't Think  
Twice, It's All Right"  
At least twice a night.

Tim Yeo  
Never says neo.  
I suppose he calls himself  
"Tim"  
To avoid seeming prim.

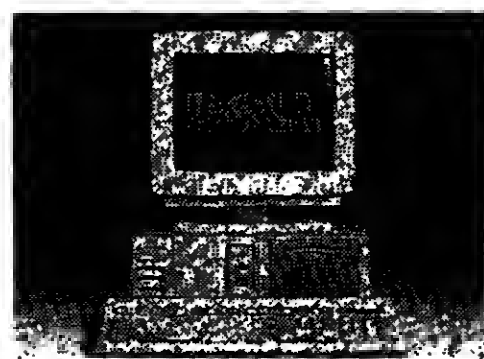
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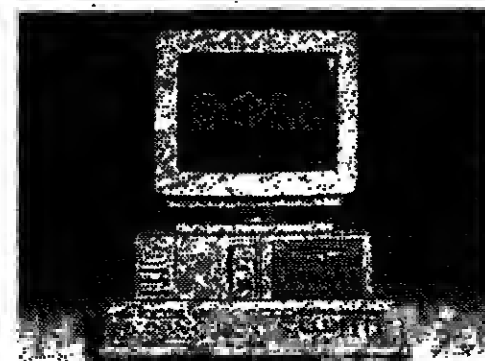
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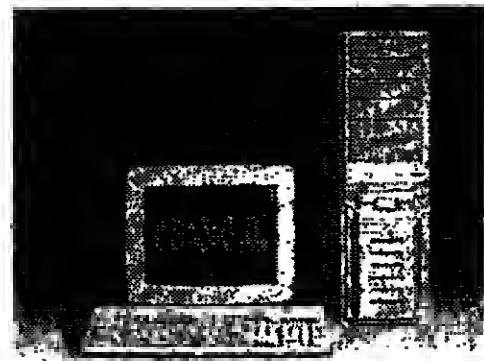
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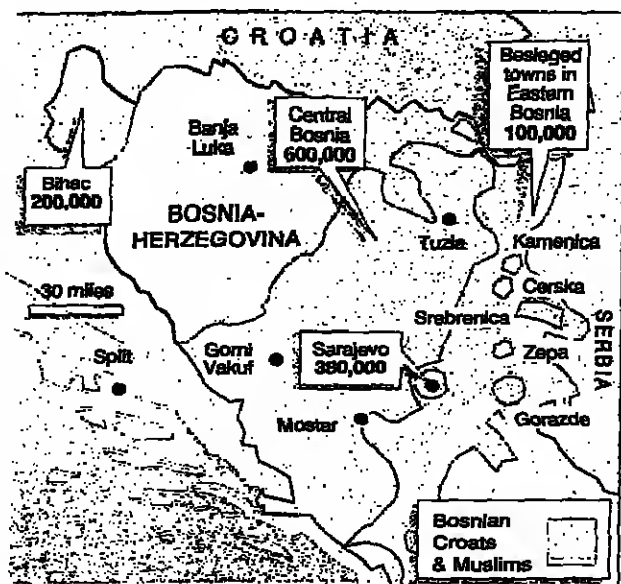
# Bosnian Serb leader vows to let through aid for Muslims

FROM TIM JUDAH  
IN BELGRADE

The leader of the Bosnian Serbs, Radovan Karadzic, moved rapidly to avert a renewed bout of international opprobrium yesterday by telling United Nations refugee chiefs that his forces would not prevent aid reaching besieged Muslim enclaves.

The undertaking came as a ten-truck convoy destined for the enclave of Cerska returned to Serbia after a failing to cross the lines. "The Serbs said there was fighting in the area and that they had not been informed of our arrival," said an official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "The same old story I'm afraid. No food has got through to Cerska in ten months but the convoy, with a UN armoured escort, will try again today."

Jose Maria Mendiluce, the special envoy of the UNHCR, said on Friday that he was fed up with aid convoys being prevented from reaching a group of Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia. He said that he was determined to challenge obstructions thrown in the way of his deliveries and



threatened to cut off supplies to the Serbs of eastern Bosnia if aid to the enclaves did not get through.

In a telephone interview from Pale, the Bosnian Serb headquarters ten miles east of Sarajevo, Mr Karadzic said that talks yesterday morning with Mr Mendiluce had been "extremely satisfactory". Mr Karadzic said that he had told

Mr Mendiluce that his men would not prevent the aid getting through.

"It is in our best interests to get the convoys through, both politically and militarily," said Mr Karadzic. "Politically because then we cannot be blamed for stopping them and militarily because the Muslims fight more savagely when they are hungry." Mr

Karadzic also said that the reason for the recent ban on foreign correspondents entering Bosnian Serb territory was only to last while lists of undesirable or "unobjective" correspondents were being prepared.

Mr Karadzic's professed desire to get food to the Muslims his troops are besieging came as part of a grotesque diplomatic and propaganda game being played with the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. On Thursday the Sarajevo authorities grabbed headlines across the world as they proclaimed that they would not distribute international humanitarian food aid flown into the Bosnian capital.

The airbridge has now been halted as piles of aid lie undistributed in Sarajevo warehouses but the less glamorous UNHCR truck run from Belgrade to Sarajevo, passing through Bosnian Serb-held territory, continued yesterday as usual.

Bernard Kouchner, France's intrepid Minister of Humanitarian Action met Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic yesterday in an attempt to get him to call off the Sarajevo "hunger strike".



Family of war: the family of a Bosnian soldier mourning at his funeral in Sarajevo, where fighting was said to be continuing yesterday. The Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency, quoting Serb military sources, said heavy

fighting continued on the main Bosnian war fronts, including Sarajevo and around Gorazde, in the east, where Muslim forces were said to have launched a new offensive towards Cernjica, on the border with Montenegro. Croat and Serb secessionist forces continued to trade artillery fire around Zadar, along southwest Croatia's Adriatic coast, military sources said. Shelling was also reported near Sibenik and Split. (AFP)

## City's hunger strike is only weapon left

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

SARAJEVO, a city under siege and torn apart by civil war, is on hunger strike. The move, on the face of it absurd even by the surreal standards of former Yugoslavia, is seen here as a perfectly rational protest against the United Nations' failure to deal with the ethnic cleansing through starvation of thousands of Muslims in the eastern parts of Bosnia.

"There is nothing else we can do," said Gordana Kucovic, political editor of *Oslobodjenje*, Sarajevo's still publishing daily newspaper. She said that like prisoners in a jail, they have no other means to coerce the UN into getting food to communities besieged by rebel Serbs in eastern Bosnia.

Many people in Sarajevo and in government-held Bosnia feel betrayed by the UN because security council resolutions authorizing the use of force in delivering relief aid were never put in to practice on the ground.

There is widespread distrust of the United Nations because of the disparity between the rhetoric and action of the security council and leading Western countries. Sarajevans feel they were duped into believing that help was on the way.

Additionally, there is suspicion about why Sarajevo, the focus of international media attention, receives several convoys and 20 plane loads of relief supplies each day while all of eastern Bosnia gets only one convoy every three to six

weeks. Most Sarajevo residents are still in disbelief that a well-equipped army representing the international community is reliant upon the good will of the same rebel Serbs that have been generally condemned as the perpetrators of war crimes. That the rebel Serbs, who are besieging cities and targeting civilians with snipers and artillery, would also co-operate in bringing them food and medicine is almost too far-fetched to be believed.

Last week's decision by the Sarajevo city council to refuse further UN relief aid until the organization follows through on earlier pledges to help the starving thousands in eastern Bosnia appears to be widely supported by the capital's residents, at least for the moment.

"We have food and those people over there are starving," said Jasna Jovicic, 29, while on her monthly shopping trip to the city's main market place with her husband. "We hope this will force (the UN) to do something different. We have had enough of asking the Serbs' permission to let the convoys through."

Though the strike is likely to be short-lived — probably no more than a week or two — it is an enormous sacrifice for the people inside the besieged city. It belies the horror with which residents have watched UN inaction and ineptitude while men, women and children die of hunger and neglect in the east of the republic.

## Lithuania expected to pick former communist

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN  
IN MOSCOW

LITHUANIANS went to the polls yesterday in presidential elections that were expected to be won by Algirdas Brazauskas, the former communist and victor of October's parliamentary elections.

Surveys showed Mr Brazauskas some ten percentage points ahead of Stasys Lozoraitis, an émigré for 50 years. Most Lithuanians seem to see him as the best man to deal with the economic crisis. Mr Lozoraitis, 66, was for many of the years under Soviet rule, the main representative of the pre-1940 Lithuanian republic, as ambassador to the Vatican and the United States.

Both candidates are firmly committed to free-market economics, but Mr Brazauskas, leader of the Lithuanian Democratic Labour party, has promised a more measured pace of reform, and Mr Lozoraitis has claimed that he still backs state economic control.

Mr Lozoraitis's other main weapon is that Mr Brazauskas was a senior official under Soviet rule — but this seems to cut little ice with Lithuanians. Mr Brazauskas has argued that compromises were necessary to protect Lithuania's interests, a line that most people accept. Some people believe that Mr Lozoraitis can bring Western expertise, but others see him as out of touch.

## Yeltsin is facing a fresh challenge

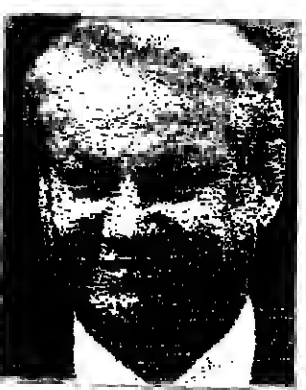
FROM AFP  
IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin faces a stern challenge this week from a resurgent communist party. Key leaders of the failed August 1991 coup were treated to a hero's welcome at a "restoration" congress of the former communist party.

About 700 delegates gathered at a health resort near Yeltsin: court reversed his ban on former party

Moscow, giving a standing ovation to seven of the 12 men accused of plotting to oust Mikhail Gorbachev.

About 450,000 former communist party members have re-registered since December, when the Constitutional Court reversed the party's abolition by Mr Yeltsin, making it Russia's strongest single opposition bloc.



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مَكْنَزَا مِنَ الْأَصْلِ









A city remembers: crowds gathering at the weekend in front of the ruin of the Frauenkirche in Dresden for an annual memorial ceremony to mark the destruction of the German city in allied air raids 48 years ago

## Bundestag presses for extension of citizenship rights

FROM MICHAEL BINYON  
IN BONN

AFTER years of opposition to dual citizenship and any dilution of German race laws, all parties in the Bundestag are now proposing changes in the law to allow more immigrants to become German citizens.

This step, flying in the face of long-held beliefs about the uniqueness of the German people, is seen as an urgent way of reducing racism, integrating almost six million foreigners living in the country, acknowledging a multicultural society and bringing the law up to date to conform with the more liberal practices in neighbouring European Community countries.

Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, last week let it be known privately for the first time that he would support a change to allow more German-born Turks — whom he described

■ Racist attacks have blighted reunited Germany. Bonn now sees the assimilation of immigrants as an urgent remedy

as upright and decent people wanting to join the society they had grown up in — to become full German citizens. The Greens have launched a petition for dual nationality to be allowed and naturalisation procedures to be expedited.

The rules for granting immigrants citizenship are among the most restrictive in Europe, and are still based on a 1913 law embracing the notion of the German race being united by blood rather than territory. Thus the constitution guarantees automatic citizenship to "residents" — people of German origin whose ancestors moved to Russia, Romania or elsewhere in East Europe often more than 100 years ago — but it does not acknowledge anyone born on German soil as automatically German.

Despite calls by immigrants, Bonn has been reluctant to make naturalisation easier, although with 7.3 per cent of the population now classified as "foreigners", Germany has a larger alien population than most other EC countries. A quarter of these come from Turkey, and about 13 per cent from former Yugoslavia.

Between 1977 and 1990 only 615,000 people were granted citizenship; of these, 404,000 were those with a constitutional claim, overwhelmingly the "resettlers" from Romania and Russia. In theory, others who have lived in Germany from 10-12 years can apply for naturalisation. But this is granted to only about 10,000 people a year, and only after exhaustive tests to show their loyalty to the state, belief in democracy, knowledge of German language and history, and cultural integration. Some bureaucrats have even used trivial offences such as parking fines to prove the applicant was not of good character and should therefore be denied citizenship. In the face of domestic and international criticism of the unclear status of a generation of "foreigners", the aliens commissioner recently called

for changes in the law to speed up naturalisation, and suggested that Bonn would, one day agree to dual citizenship.

The opposition Social Democrats have long called for Germany to be brought into line with British or even French law, which gives anyone born in France the right to citizenship at 18. But German conservatives insist that this would spark off racist resentment, and that Germany is not a country of immigration. Herr Kohl has recently taken a softer line.

The concept of "German stock" based on notions of race was elaborated in 1913 to apply to those who shared German blood, linguistic and cultural affinity. The Nazis took the principle to the extreme, but after the war the notion survived. German conservatives say that in the developing European Community the notion of race has less relevance; nevertheless, they oppose any dilution of the "ius sanguinis" (blood right). Proposals for change have come only after many criticised the racism in the law, noting that foreigners will never be integrated in German society if they cannot share in its duties. Politicians have also acknowledged that unless foreigners have the vote, there will never be a political need for deputies to court their views. The government now proposes shortening the necessary stay in Germany to eight years.



Kohl: supportive of German-born Turks

## Milanese courts vow 'week of fire'

FROM PHILIP WILLAN  
IN ROME

MILAN magistrates have promised another "week of fire" after their investigations into political corruption prompted the resignation of Claudio Martelli, the justice minister, and Bettino Craxi, the Socialist party secretary.

Paolo Cirino Pomicino, a Christian Democrat and budget minister until last year, yesterday underwent a voluntary hour-long interrogation. He is under investigation in connection with illegal kick-backs allegedly paid on modernisation work for the southeastern port of Manfredonia.

Gabriele Cagliari, chairman of ENI, the state energy company, was warned that he was under investigation for alleged embezzlement in connection with the acquisition of Enimont, a short-lived joint venture with the private sector.

The ever-expanding scandal has given rise to concern that Italy's business and political establishment is heading for paralysis. There is a growing call for swift electoral reform so that a new parliament can seek a political solution to the misdemeanours of its predecessors.

"We are living through one of the gravest and most troubled periods of our democracy," said Nicola Mancino, the interior minister. "A grave economic crisis is being aggravated by the inertia produced by the moral question. Public administration is blocked and the administrators are terrified."

The Milan daily *Corriere della Sera* said yesterday in an editorial: "At every new entry into the arena of the enquiry the public has applauded. But day after day the arena has filled until those under investigation have crowded into the stands, blending in with the spectators. Now the gravity and diffusion of the cancer leave us breathless."

Piero Fajardi, president of the Milan appeal court, commented: "People realise the risk of decapitating the institutional and business worlds. The power vacuum is likely to be filled with people lacking any experience, glorified simply because they are new."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Spain hunts Turkish drug gang

Madrid: Spanish police claimed they had seized one of the biggest hauls of pure heroin in Europe at the weekend and are now hunting a Turkish gang. The drug, with a market value of about £25 million pounds, would have "inundated" the Spanish market, police said (Edward Owen writes).

The 282lbs, in small sacks, was found in dustbins behind a villa owned by gypsies in Malaga. Three gypsies detained police were said to be responsible for storage and distribution of the drug.

#### Vassiliou tipped

Nicosia: President Vassiliou was tipped to win a second five-year term as Greek Cypriot polls closed. He campaigned on a platform of support for a United Nations plan to end the 19-year division of the island.

#### Honecker aid

Bonn: Erich Honecker, the former East German leader in exile in Chile, receives financial help from donors including Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, his lawyer told *Volksstimme am Sonntag*. (Reuters)

#### Fighting crime

Moscow: Elite troops from the Russian interior ministry have been enlisted in the fight against organised crime. President Yeltsin has declared corruption and crime Russia's main problem. (Reuters)

#### Drivers taxed

Bonn: A motorway fee that Bonn may introduce should be slapped on foreigners only, Björn Engholm, opposition Social Democrat leader, said. (Reuters)

#### Hump backed

Marseilles: French farmers paraded four dromedaries through Avignon to protest against Moroccan tomato

## Mitterrand gambles on Fréjus

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

WITH scandal continuing to plague the French parliamentary election campaign, President Mitterrand unveils the nation's memorial to its Indochina war dead tomorrow which will use the occasion for another manoeuvre to unsettle the conservatives who expect to take over his government.

The remains of 24,000 military and 3,000 civilians killed in the colonial war of four decades ago lie buried in the memorial ground overlooking the Mediterranean at Fréjus. They were taken there after exhumation at Dien Bien Phu and the other battlefields of Southeast Asia. Most of the French forces passed through the Fréjus camp on their way to the war.

The ceremony, only days after Mitterrand's trip to

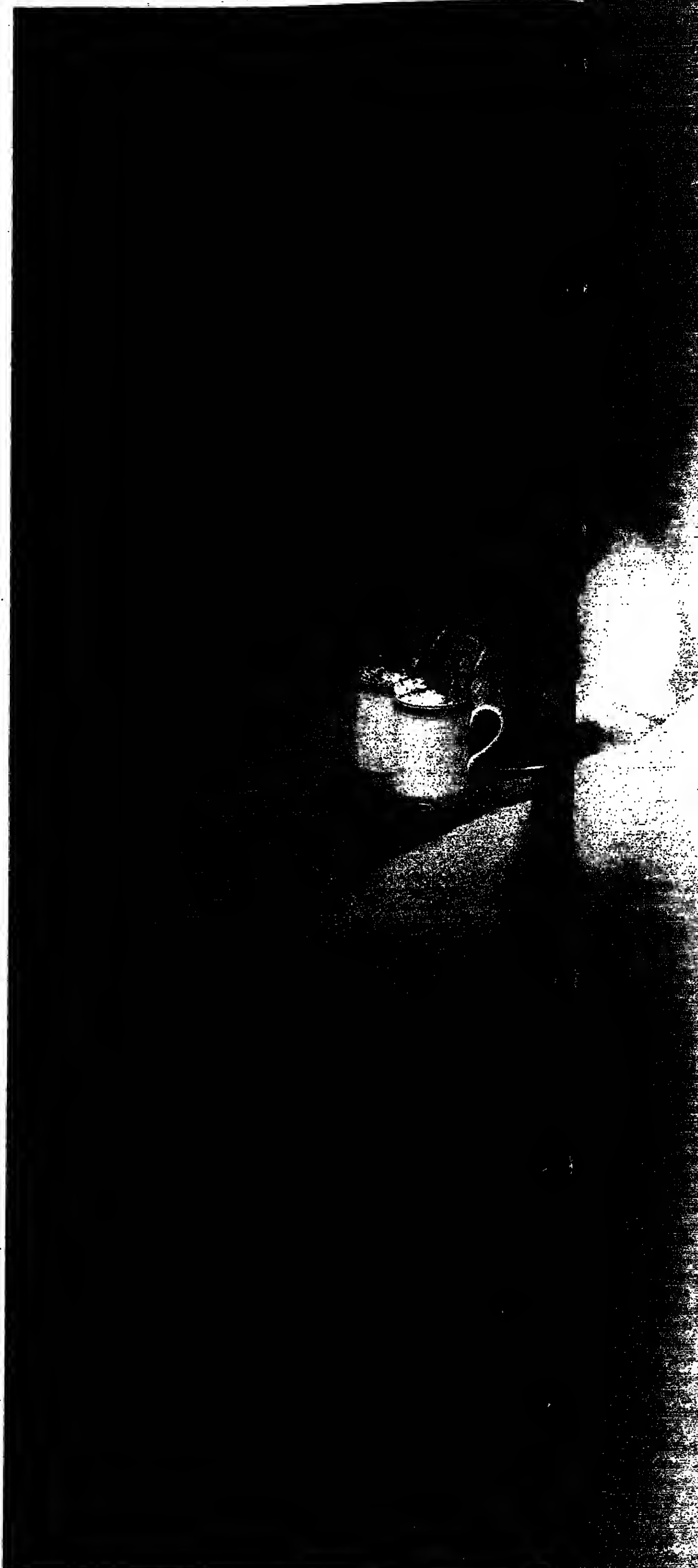
marks an act of healing comparable with, though less traumatic than, the opening of the Vietnam memorial in Washington in 1982.

Coming five weeks before elections which are expected to rout his socialist government, Mitterrand's day in Fréjus is being seen as a ploy to anoint François Léotard, the town's mayor and a popular figure in the centre-right UDF grouping of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. M Léotard, 50, who served as culture minister during the centre-right "cohabitation" government in the mid-1980s, gets on well with the president. Supporters see him as a potential choice when M Mitterrand appoints a prime minister, especially if the UDF does as well or better than the RPR, its Gaullist

Such a choice could open a new government to ecologists and centrists and would amount to "the worst of poisoned gifts", as *Le Monde* put it, to the main parties' ambitious leaders and eternal rivals, M Giscard d'Estaing and Jacques Chirac.

There is a complication. M Léotard has just rejoined the political scene after being cleared of corruption charges on technical grounds. Although the judges said more charges were possible, he resumed his mayoral office on Saturday. By dropping in on the town hall, M Mitterrand not only gives M Léotard heavy publicity, but puts the spotlight on a case embarrassing to the opposition at a time when Pierre Bérégovoy, the prime minister, and other senior socialists are tainted

# You're not dreaming, this



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## De Klerk and ANC seek to defuse power-sharing row

FROM RAY KENNEDY  
IN JOHANNESBURG

BOTH the South African government and the African National Congress were making strenuous efforts yesterday to contain a row that erupted over their power-sharing deal which threatens to torpedo full-scale constitutional negotiations even before they resume.

President de Klerk denied, in an interview with the BBC, that the government had entered into any agreement with the ANC to share power for five years after elections in the interests of national stability. He insisted that any such pact would have to be ratified at multiparty talks.

His statement followed a furious outburst by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, leader of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, who said it would require the combined might of the South African Defence Force and the ANC's armed wing, Umkonto we Sizwe, to enforce compliance in the KwaZulu homeland and Natal province.

The government is due to meet Inkatha for two days of talks this week in an effort to set up a multiparty planning

■ Last week's agreement for an interim government has angered Chief Buthelezi. His wrath threatens to torpedo multiparty talks

conference for the resumption of constitutional negotiations. A meeting tomorrow in Johannesburg of the ANC's national executive committee threatens to be equally stormy. ANC hardliners are accusing their negotiators of selling out to the National Party.

Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader, declared at a banquet on Saturday night that there had been no secret deal or pact with the government. He said: "An interim government of national unity is not power-sharing. What the government has proposed is a form of power-sharing. The ANC, on the other hand, proposes an interim government of national unity which would include those parties that have won a certain proportion of seats in a constituent assembly."

The agreement announced by the government and the ANC on Friday after two months of private, bilateral meetings, provides for five years of joint rule by the most

powerful parties after the country's first non-racial election which is expected to be held by mid-1994. The proposal will be put to the multiparty constitutional talks due to resume next month.

The deal was cautiously welcomed yesterday by leading newspapers. In an editorial, the Johannesburg *Sunday Star* said: "Five years of power-sharing after the first election is just what the country needs to soften the pain of four apartheid decades and create a climate for peace." It added that the government and the ANC should not allow the issue of power-sharing to divert them from the immediate goal of stability and peace.

The mass-circulation Johannesburg *Sunday Times* concluded: "South African democracy now lies less in the hands of political leaders than in the laps of the gods. Transition is certain, but transition to what?"

Chief Buthelezi said there was "no possibility whatsoever"

that Inkatha, the KwaZulu homeland government or the people of KwaZulu and Natal would accept the deal. "The government and the ANC/SACP alliance are now dangerously toying with all our lives and the lives of our children and grandchildren," he said.

Ferdinand Hartzenberg, deputy leader of the right-wing Conservative party, said: "The ANC now has everything it wanted. The government has totally capitulated."

□ **Lesotho:** Heavy fighting raged yesterday between government and rebel forces in the centre of Maseru, Angola's second city, sources close to the Angolan army command said. The army and Jonas Savimbi's Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) have been battling for control of the city for more than a month.

On Saturday Unita announced that the town of Waku Kungo, 65 miles north of Huambo, had come under fire from government forces. The army source also claimed that the whole family of Marcolino Moco, the prime minister who is from Huambo, had been "murdered" by Unita forces. (AFP)

## Zairean forces hold town to ransom

FROM SAM KILEY  
IN GOMA, ZAIRE

ZAIREAN businessmen and professionals in Goma have spent a frantic weekend trying to raise billions of zaires to pay the local military and gendarme garrisons so that they will not fulfil their threat to "tear the town apart".

The spectre of what could happen if the Rotary Club and other organisations do not manage to find the required 560 billion zaires (£140,000) by tomorrow haunts the city, so much so that the governor of North Kivu province fled his post in the east for the capital, Kinshasa, yesterday.

On Thursday last week Colonel Mbala, the commander of the gendarmes in Goma, delivered a simple ultimatum to the business community: "Either you pay or you get killed or looted."

Christian De Winter, director of an airfreight company in Goma, said: "Since all the businesses have already been wrecked and there is nothing left to steal, that meant only one thing, our residences and ourselves will be next."

On December 23, three waves of looters — troops, gendarmes and civilians — destroyed the town centre and halted economic activity in a 24-hour orgy of plunder. Even the local prison was destroyed. The looting was sparked by the military, who had received only half their pay. Like the people they stole from, they were victims of the economic and administrative paralysis caused by the deadlock in the battle for power between President Mobutu and the head of the opposition, Etienne Tshisekedi.

By the end of Saturday, 220 billion zaires in "small" denomination notes of one million and under had been collected and stacked in the Commercial bank of Zaire in Goma. It will be exchanged for the worthless five million zaire notes introduced by Mr Mobutu last month and be used to pay the army.

Some business leaders in Goma think that although they are short of 340 billion zaires, they may have bought time to save the town for a week, but most are pessimistic. "We have found some money to pay the army for January," said Mr De Winter, "but February's pay day comes up in a week and we have nothing left. What happens then? We are being held like hostages."



Staff of life: nurses giving Hawo Mumin Muse, 2, medicine at a feeding centre in Mogadishu, where Nigerian UN troops are replacing American soldiers

## CIA tracks suspect in desert

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

A MANHUNT is under way in the Pakistani desert state of Baluchistan for the prime suspect in the murder of two officials of the Central Intelligence Agency in suburban Washington three weeks ago.

Mr Aimal Kanshi, 28, a Pathan, slipped out of the United States after allegedly killing the two men outside the CIA headquarters in Virginia. He has been charged in the America with murder.

Mr Kanshi spent a week at home in the Baluchistan capital of Quetta before disappearing last Sunday. Tracking him down will be difficult, given the reluctance of Pakistan's tribes to hand over a fellow tribesman to outsiders.

The terrain around Quetta, rugged and unpolluted, is home to gangs smuggling arms and heroin across the Afghan border. It would be easy for a local person to claim tribal protection and disappear. The motive for the killing is a mystery. Pathans have a ruthless code of honour which requires revenge to be exacted even if it takes several generations to do it.

CIA agents were active in Quetta when the Soviet Union was fighting for control of Afghanistan, turning it into a city of spies and intrigue. It was one of two main centres from which the Afghan guerrillas took delivery of CIA-supplied weapons. Mr Kanshi

was involved in the operation and would have come into contact with CIA agents.

Mr Kanshi has the same family name as Gul Hasan Kanshi, a member of the martial law cabinet of President Zia, the late Pakistani dictator. Gul Hasan Kanshi was assassinated in 1984, allegedly by the CIA. Pakistani officials said there was no political motive, describing the killing as a family dispute.

□ **Ceasefire agreed:** A retired Pakistani general has negotiated a tenuous ceasefire in the Afghan capital, Kabul, which has been under fire for four weeks. The country is slipping into civil war and the peace is not expected to last.

## Big Mac spearheads a capitalist invasion

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

COCA-COLA is already coming to India, half the country's youth are obsessed by gyrating girls on MTV and the newly-arrived BBC is squeezing the life out of state-run television. Now McDonald's is joining the cultural invasion.

The Big Mac will have to be Indianised: Hindus do not eat beef. A pork burger would upset Muslims. A buffalo burger? But buffalo meat has an eye-wateringly strong taste and is so tough that pet dogs walk away defeated. Chicken and mut-

ton will probably dominate the menu. McDonald's dainty French fries will seem novel to people accustomed to huge greasy chips, black with age, which are standard fare at the nation's roadside dhabas (cafes).

McDonald's says it will invest \$20 million (£15.5 million) in the next seven years. Economic liberalisation is revolutionising India. The cellular telephone will soon arrive, having already contaminated most of the rest of Asia.

Imported washing ma-

chines are making the traditional dhoti (washerman) an endangered species. This will, however, lead to a reduction in the nation's clothing bill; dhotis specialise in destroying shirts.

Benetton has arrived, with big glass shopfronts and shiny floors. There is something absurd about buying jeans that were made in India, sent to America and reimported. But the right label matters to the yuppies, even if the same product is available at the local market ten times cheaper.

Indians are becoming obsessed with gadgets. It will gladden the nation to have heard that import duties have been cut from 255 to 150 per cent on a range of items including fax machines, compact disc players, food mixers and hair driers.

□ **Paris:** McDonald's France has confirmed that it plans to put one of its fast-food restaurants at the foot of the Eiffel Tower. Jean Tiberi, an assistant to Jacques Chirac, the mayor of Paris, had said the city was "utterly opposed" to the idea. (AFP)

opened in London last year. The programme was selected and the performance carried out.



Behind every successful career woman there usually stands another woman, the nanny. Valerie Grove reports



Fine line: department class at Shellagh Roth's school for English-style nannies in Cleveland, Ohio. For women, equal opportunity means nothing unless childcare is available

## Mothers, fathers and minders

**M**rs Grove, we would like to offer you this job — but I understand you have four school-age children. How do you propose to look after them?

No editor has ever asked me this question, any more than men are ever asked how they can work and be fathers too. Men are assumed to have wives at home, taking care of all that women with children are assumed to be managing somehow.

The true question raised by the political fiasco of Bill Clinton's "Nannygate", now apparently resolved by his nominating a pipe-smoking, childless spinster as attorney-general, is not illegal immigration into the United States, but the much more universal matter of who looks after the children. It is a fundamental question which men, and male-dominated governments, choose to ignore.

It makes a nonsense of initiatives such as Opportunity 2000, which are supposed to propel women through glass

ceilings into management and boardroom when, in order to return to work at all, they have to arrange childcare with none of the support or perks which boardroom-bound men expect to ease their way — secretaries to dial their expensive account lunch appointments, chauffeurs to glide through traffic. Play the sex-reversal game: if fathers could not return to work without finding a child-minder first, would not the child-minder be tax-deductible? What man would be content to pay a third of his taxed income for a nanny, and then pay the nanny's tax on top of that?

Yet that is the reality for women: a mother who earns, and pays another, is taxed twice over. No wonder so many hand their child-minders cash so they can shelter under the black-economy umbrella.

So the scandal of Mr Clinton's two aspiring attorneys-general, though focused on illegal immigrants, underlined a bald fact — that equality of opportunity is non-



Tea time: Roth students get to grips with their subject

sense unless childcare is available. It should be above board and a legitimate expense. Company cars get regular recognition in the Budget; childcare — other than "workplace nurseries", which are largely irrelevant — does not. Successive Chancellors have ignored the essential priority of childcare if women are to use their education and talents.

Teresa Gorman proposed, two years ago, a bill to enable women working outside the home — that is, the majority — to be able to deduct a range of domestic services as tax deductible: to no avail.

Crèches and workplace nurseries are not the answer. They may be a temporary convenience — you can dump a small baby anywhere for a short time — but children are for life, and they get more, not less, demanding as they get older. The school day finishes in the middle of the afternoon. (I once had three different schools to collect from, which finished rigidly at 3.05, 3.15 and 3.20; while my sister, a publisher in Australia, has always managed without help because her daughter's school stays open until 6pm.)

Women heading for top jobs such as attorney-generalship need to work men's hours, and men regard staying late as a badge of indispensability. In a Radio 4 programme on fatherhood last week, I at last heard a father admit that he stayed late at work "to avoid

the bedtime and bedtime scene". But someone has to do it. Children aged five to 18 need someone to listen, read, supervise homework, chauffeur them about, and just be there.

So if she is to work with a man's commitment, the woman has to replace herself at home, which means: a pair of nannies. The ghostly word nanny is redolent of the Victorian idle rich, who handed the entire maternal burden to a rustic girl who would live in the attic for £10 a year and a half-day off every other Sunday. Today, ten pages of nanny ads in *The Lady* every week reflect how many women (doctors, barristers, BBC producers — all it seems, with "chaotic but happy" households) seek a non-smoking, car-driving, child-and-dog-loving paragon who will cost them — though wages are coyly withheld — at least £10,000 a year.

**W**hen Lady Howe produced her Hansard Society report on *Women at the Top* in 1990, point number three in her list of Barriers to Equality for Women was "the absence of proper childcare provision". Lady Howe's simple suggestion was that a proportion of childcare costs should be deductible against income, of up to £1,200 for one child, £2,400 for two.

A sensible, moderate and

very modest proposal, applauded at the time. A leader in *The Independent* said: "I hope invidiously, 'stuffy' adequate childcare is at least as essential as the executive's chauffeur". Three years later there is no sign of any such concession. I am allowed to deduct the cost of petrol and paperclips and picture frames for my office at home, for tax purposes — but not the infinitely more vital expense of having my children supervised responsibly in my absence.

If the last four Chancellors had working wives, they might not have clung to the old-fashioned view that women who "choose" to work must sort things out for themselves, and not whinge or fuss about it. The first advice women get on returning to work after motherhood is to keep domestic problems concealed. "If you're late, always give a man's excuse — say your car broke down, never say the child is ill or the nanny didn't show up."

When Zoe Baird, Mr Clinton's first choice for attorney-general, protested that she had just been struggling along when she employed her illegal babysitter — "I didn't think, then, that one day I would be attorney-general" — one could sympathise. A returning-to-work mother, clutching a cash in the hand in 1976, stayed precisely two weeks. The next nanny has stayed ever since: 17 years this year. So we are getting into pension schemes for the nanny. But no employer has ever inquired me about who looked after my children: the assumption is that we find a way, without help or financial concession.

While researching a book about women who had succeeded in careers while raising families, I read the whole of *Who's Who*, which does not take long if you are looking only for women with children. The volume, begun with a bishop and ended with an academic, both fathers of five. But almost all the women who made it into *Who's Who* were

unmarried and childless like Janet Reno, the likely new Attorney-General. After married women were unfettered from the professions and returned to the service and teaching, until well into this century. As late as 1954, Mary Warnock was the first married woman fellow of her Oxford college. Women either gave up work on marriage, or married the job.

President Clinton has discovered that behind every successful woman there must be another woman — especially in the legal profession, with its inescapable demands of time and place. Barbara Minis, our first woman director of public prosecutions, never stopped practising law despite four children. "You have to be at the Old Bailey at 10am with your head screwed on to your shoulders and quite unemotional, and if your child is being operated on that day that is just plain luck," she once told me.

She had five nannies in all, if you include the one who kept saying, "That's not my job" and lasted only three weeks. The Miller's nanny was expected to be competent enough to run a neighbourhood nursery in the basement. Lord Justice Butler-Sloss brought up her three children at the Temple, just beside the road from the law courts, with the help of a series of nannies and a nursery school held in the Temple Church. And there are now several QC's such as Helena Kennedy and Mary Arden (three children apiece) in the throes of combining the law with the family, but they could not manage it without nannies. And while the country needs such women, it would rather not recognise their family responsibilities.

But whose children are they anyway? As we were reminded last week, no men have ever been vetted on how they organised their children's welfare before being given a job. If men had to organise it, and pay for it, at that crucial stage in their career ladders, things would be very different. Childcare would, as it should, become a visible necessity.

## Happiness is a hobby

I heard *Woman's Hour* on Friday while I was busy reclassifying my Penny Reds and waiting for the soldering-iron to heat up for the fairylights on the 100,000-matchstick model of the Eiffel Tower I am completing. And I tell you, what I heard made me shake my fist, knocking my Meccano roundabout into the tropical fish hatchery.

Oh, all right, I lie. I have no secret workshop. I was, in fact, driving to the blasted shops like thousands of other women on their so-called day off. But the fist was shaken all right. For the question the programme asked was a very good one indeed: to wit, "Why do girls give up their hobbies when they start dating, while boys do not?" It was the answer which was not satisfactory. That, and the fact that nobody seemed to see any problem.

The line of the feature was that little boys are busy with collections and football cards and pet rats, while little girls enthuse over pony magazines and craft kits (and even, let us not be sexist, pet rats). Yet after puberty the sexes divide. They date one another, but boys carry on developing their interests, while the girls let their

withers and die to concentrate on hairdos. Various grown men, led by Hunter Davies, were wheeled out to brag of their stamp collections and prowess with steam-engine models but only one adult woman admitted publicly to her hobby (jacking up old animal bones on wheels).

The rest of the women were hobbyless and perversely proud of it. They trotted out the usual justifying lines about men being little boys at heart, so intricate they need pathetic hobbies, poor things. Women, on the other hand, are relationship-orientated. An underlying tone of female smugness suggested that this was, naturally, yet another proof of our greater maturity and strength.

And I nearly stopped the car to be sick. Women! For God's sake! Why do we have such an amazing talent for looking at the bars on our cages and deciding that what they really need is a good brisk polish? Why shore up the mentality which says that the only permissible female hobbies are those which beautify the home and feed the brutes? Why covertly laugh at a woman who admitted that she likes collecting bottles? She was a heroine, I hope she found some really good claustrics over the weekend.

It was a male voice which got to the nub of the matter. Goodness, no doubt about his Sabbath set, he said plaintively: "It's about keeping some space in your head." Precisely. And space-in-the-head, a private place to retire to for refreshment, is what women too often lack. We rush around trying to prove ourselves by giving 110 per cent at work before belting home to nurture men and children. At best we vary this by joylessly battering our bodies into socially acceptable shapes or



LIBBY PURVES

struggling through upholstery classes in the pathetic pretence that we are having "Me Time". But we are not. Not the way Hunter Davies has Me Time with his stamps.

Men have an enviable — not reprehensible — knack of not losing touch with humble pleasures: building useless objects, cataloguing them, or listening to ball-by-ball cricket commentaries. They keep a selfish space in their heads, a kind of psychic potting-shed. They do their duty by work and family but inside them still lies a boyhood place: a coral island, a lagoon, flamingos and pirates. A place where the long afternoon stretches out, golden, private, all your own.

Girls have a land like this too when they are small. The props may be different, but its secret otherness is not. We then let it be swamped by an advancing tide of

relationships and self-interests, and left to fend for ourselves.

Teenagers give up their private interests (whether music or breeding caviar, it matters not) in favour of self-beautification and making sandwiches at the cricket club. It is not a sign of maturity but of defeat. It leads to those riddle-aged cries of "After all I've done for you!", or to a strikingly stupid addiction to "ever new" relationships. Men rarely say "After all I've done for you!". Even if they have, there is a small, pleased guilty awareness that, actually, they got a good bit of self in as well.

**T**he balance is improving. As chaps have grown wiser, they have begun to band practice, and how much of the bedroom is taken up with hand-tools, and how much of the private life is taken up with their private arrangements. They get teased for it whereas a man who collects bygone farm implements is presumed to be a serious expert, a woman who collects dolls' house furniture is "compensating", probably for some grievous sexual inadequacy. Who cares? Women who act as eccentrically as men are always beyond the pale. But if beyond the pale is where the secret lagoon lies, so be it.

Long ago, I used to take old clocks to bits and make pictures out of the cogwheels. Screwdriver, please. And glue. I am not at home this afternoon, to anybody.

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**Dressed to wed**  
IF THE problem of what to get married in is causing pre-nuptial tension, then why not visit the You and Your Wedding Live exhibition. Fashion shows will feature the latest designs in wedding dresses. There will be opportunities to meet the designers, and seek advice about all aspects of weddings. You and Your Wedding Live, Saturday, February 20, New Connanghams, London WC2. Tickets are £14.50.



## Matthew Parris



**The modern health-conscious world offers a feast of leftovers for the broad-minded scavenger**

In their eating habits, children can be divided into those who leave things and those who eat the things the others have left. As a child I came into the second category. I was always in the market for the glacial cherries from the other kids' ice-cream sundae, the currants from my sister's bread-and-butter pudding and the black liquorice logs nesting among the Alibon's. I was the one to eat the potato skins and the crusts. I even accepted the skin from my brother's custard.

Growing up, we hardly change. One becomes more furtive about childish habits and I have, under pressure, stopped eating things that have actually been chewed. In a smart restaurant the other day I felt guilty about picking a sad little abandoned roast potato off the vacated table next to mine... but I did it. The instinct remains strong. I'm a natural scavenger.

Yet anxious not to offend. Several sorrowful letters from restaurants, received since I suggested in this column that, like excreting, eating is a bodily function, have led me to refine the analogy: eating is like filling a steam engine's boiler with coal: you just shovel it in.

Employed he could do worse than direct these tankers where they might do some good. And, talking of tankers, where do they put the lead that isn't going into petrol? My Land Rover, which will do only 16mpg on lead-free petrol, could hardly do worse on petrol-free lead.

But I wander from my theme, which was food. Is oatmeal soup really made from the tails of oxen alone? What do they do with the rest of the ox? I'm told that in Australia the price of duck has come right down since food retailers in Hong Kong (where ducks' feet are what the Chinese gourmet seeks) arranged a refrigerated shipping service.

But where do the canners of peeled grapes put all the skins? What do Mexican restaurants specialising in guacamole do with all the avocado pits? Is there, somewhere in France, a great mouldering mountain of legless frogs? You see, I like grapeskins. I know you can swallow an avocado pip whole if you shut your eyes and think of Gerald Kaufman; and I'm sure I could learn to eat the rest of the frog. Snakes do.

Knocked back with a glass of Barbrican-free alcohol and a decaffeinated caffeine pill, the avocado pip would precede the legless frog sautéed on a bed of soused grapeskins. No sweat.

That reminds me: I must find a way of getting my chlorofluorocarbons without the added deodorant.

"half-fat" products such as adulterated milk, yoghurt or even chocolate? There must be bouncy castles of it, somewhere. Why waste it? There's surely a market for "hi-fat", "double fat" or "fat packed" dairy products. These could be marketed with a slogan such as "naturally bad for you" under the brand-name of the Biscuit's Kitchen and, hopefully, a lurid government health warning. The same food company could offer a line in extra-polyunsaturated TV dinners called PolyPoly or Sat-U-Like, decorated with a specially designed "heart-busters" symbol: a heart surrounded by a circle and traversed by a diagonal bar.

Which brings me to alcohol. Consider the enormous range of alcohol-free wines and beers, such as Barbrican, now available. I understand these are brewed in the normal way, after which the alcohol is extracted.

The finished product is not offered for sale at a discount, so, somewhere, there must be fleets of tankers cruising around, full of alcohol that's already been paid for by people who preferred their beer without it. If Mr Major is serious about trying to cheer up the unemployed he could do worse than direct these tankers where they might do some good. And, talking of tankers, where do they put the lead that isn't going into petrol? My Land Rover, which will do only 16mpg on lead-free petrol, could hardly do worse on petrol-free lead.

Employed he could do worse than direct these tankers where they might do some good. And, talking of tankers, where do they put the lead that isn't going into petrol? My Land Rover, which will do only 16mpg on lead-free petrol, could hardly do worse on petrol-free lead.

But I wander from my theme, which was food. Is oatmeal soup really made from the tails of oxen alone? What do they do with the rest of the ox? I'm told that in Australia the price of duck has come right down since food retailers in Hong Kong (where ducks' feet are what the Chinese gourmet seeks) arranged a refrigerated shipping service.

But where do the canners of peeled grapes put all the skins? What do Mexican restaurants specialising in guacamole do with all the avocado pits? Is there, somewhere in France, a great mouldering mountain of legless frogs? You see, I like grapeskins. I know you can swallow an avocado pip whole if you shut your eyes and think of Gerald Kaufman; and I'm sure I could learn to eat the rest of the frog. Snakes do.

Knocked back with a glass of Barbrican-free alcohol and a decaffeinated caffeine pill, the avocado pip would precede the legless frog sautéed on a bed of soused grapeskins. No sweat.

That reminds me: I must find a way of getting my chlorofluorocarbons without the added deodorant.

I feel very sorry for Nina Rosenblum who, according to *The Washington Post*, was in Europe last Friday and "unable to comment". Ms Rosenblum is the co-producer of a television film, *The Liberators*, a documentary about black soldiers who freed Jews from concentration camps at the end of the second world war. It was intended to improve relations between Jewish and African Americans in New York. The film was shown on the PBS network in November, but has now been withdrawn after complaints from the American Jewish Committee and veterans' associations that it was unhistorical. The battalion it showed never was at the places the film portrayed, though it did fight well in the Battle of the Bulge and helped to liberate Gumbinnen, a satellite concentration camp.

Ms Rosenblum undoubtedly intended to do good, and to improve the tense ethnic relationships of New York. She has been criticised and repudiated for her pains. She probably knew that she was walking a dangerous path. Another report last week shows how dangerous it is. At a Virginia high school there has been a clash between groups of African American and Hispanic American students; both sides were armed with guns. As a response the Virginia education authorities have established a training course for teachers in mediating group ethnic disputes. Virginia high schools are now being treated like so many Bosnias, with the different tribal groups in conflict with each other, and the teachers playing the roles of David Owen and Cyrus Vance.

The retribalisation of the world is less advanced in the United States than in Africa, the Balkans or the former Soviet Union, but it is equally evident as a trend. In the United States the tribes are forming on a sexual or gender-defined basis as well as on an ethnic one. Take, for instance, the question of gays in the

US armed forces. Until 1950 black and white units were segregated in the US army, and for many years after 1950 blacks were still treated as "second class soldiers". Gays have made the comparison between their situation and that of black soldiers in that period. This has angered many black soldiers, and General Colin Powell, himself black, is the leading military figure opposed to lifting the ban on gays. Black culture, both in America and Africa, tends to be more hostile than white to homosexuality; indeed, homosexuality is often resented by black people as involving white corruption of black youth, as being a form of white sexual colonialism.

The attempt by some gay groups to be accepted as the sexually defined equivalent of an ethnic minority is resented by some existing minority groups. There is tension between blacks and Jews and there is also tension between blacks and gays. Much the largest gender group to imitate the conduct of an ethnic minority is the women's movement, for whom Hillary Clinton has become the role model. Here again, the response has included widespread but covert hostility. It is not uncommon in Washington to be told "the latest Hillary story", and they are all demeaning. "Political correctness" itself is largely an attempt to pretend that these hostile reactions to ethnic and sexual claims do not exist. Several ethnic minorities, including Hispanic Americans and Orthodox and Hasidic Jews, take a traditional view of the roles appropriate to women and men. Just as gay rights have wider acceptance among white people of European descent, so white support for women's rights is much the stronger. The macho culture of Latin America does not accept the equality of women in traditional areas of male dominance.

These issues become more prominent when the Democrats are in power. In all recent presidential elections, the Democrats have had a

majority of most of the minorities, of African, native, Hispanic, Jewish and other hyphenated Americans, and of gay and women activists. The Republicans have usually had a majority of the majority group, of what could be called unhyphenated Americans. Among definable minority groups, only the rich and the religious vote Republican.

Both parties have long indulged in tokenism, in putting representatives of ethnic groups in offices or on committees to demonstrate their mindedness. One Republican secretary of the interior had to resign after proudly claiming to have appointed "a woman, a black, a cripple, a Jew and a Jew to some committee". Yet President Clinton's administration is

**William Rees-Mogg**

# Hyphenated into a new tribalism

cent of the entire non-farm private sector workforce.

Because of public anger at the application of quotas, "race-norming" was banned in the 1991 Civil Rights Act. But *Forbes* produces evidence that quotas are still being generally applied, even where they are denied. Here again, the system not only creates tensions between minority groups and the majority, but also between different minority groups. *Forbes* gives an example of an employer sidelining Hispanic applications for employment because he did not have enough blacks. The opposite could well happen. Either is bad for ethnic relations.

Of course, there is an economic cost to this. The United States spends close to 25 per cent of GDP on the combined costs of health care, regulation and litigation, as against an overhead of perhaps half that in Japan, or even in Britain. But the long-term threat is to the social unity of the country. Each time an ethnic, sex or disadvantaged group obtains a benefit from political action, that sends a message to every other similar group. Why do gays model themselves on the civil rights movement? Because the civil rights movement was successful.

The quota system employed in forming the Clinton administration, the similar quota system of the EEOC and the other related regulatory systems, have had the effect of politicising jobs — not just some jobs but virtually all jobs. At first sight that might make for fairer employment practices. But it obviously translates economic competition for employment into political competition. It tends to transfer loyalty from the nation to the sub-group. As the hyphenated creep in, people come to regard themselves less as Americans, and more as African, black, Hispanic, female, gay, or even disabled Americans. Quotas are not the cure but are helping to promote the retribalisation of America.

# Old weaknesses regained

**The Thatcher era was an exception to the rule, says Peter Riddell**

Less than a year after leading his party to an election victory, a Tory prime minister was under fire in the press from traditional allies. A widely discussed article in *The Daily Telegraph* said: "Most Conservatives are waiting to feel the smack of firm government. The spirit and the strategy can be created only by the prime minister himself."

Always sensitive to press criticism, the prime minister rejected advice to ignore the attacks and insisted on replying publicly. "This country is not on its way down, and this government is not on its way out. As to the government, we were elected not for six or eight months, but for five years."

The prime minister was Anthony Eden, speaking in January 1956, nine months after succeeding Winston Churchill. There are obvious similarities with now, although John Major is a shrewd politician than Eden was.

The real lesson to be drawn is that weak government is not unusual in post-war Britain. It has been the norm and strong government the exception. Strength and weakness have only partly been linked with the size of Commons majorities. As important have been the state of the economy and sterling, and internal party cohesion.

The Attlee government was dominated by strong characters, but it retained the political initiative for only two years. After the devastation of summer 1949, the government became increasingly divided and exhausted. Over the subsequent 13 Tory years, the final Churchill term was successful, even though his leader was by then old, often ill, and out of touch; the Eden administration was a disaster; and Harold Macmillan's



last period of dominance lasted for just over three years from late 1958 until early 1962. The Home premiership was largely a pre-election interlude.

Paradoxically, Harold Wilson was at his strongest when he had a single-figure majority from October 1964 until March 1966. But within a few months of winning a 100-seat majority, his authority began to be undermined by that July's sterling crisis, followed by recurrent political and financial challenges. The Heath administration could claim to be firm for just over 18 months until the first miners' strike in early 1972. The second Wilson and the Callaghan administrations were bedevilled by weak positions in the Commons and financial storms.

That leaves Margaret Thatcher. Even though she often, reluctantly, agreed to tactical retreats, she always appeared single-minded and consistent. Her 11½ years in power stand out as a highly unusual, long period of strong government, aided by a divided Opposition. Judged by the post-war record, they were, however, an aberration over the preceding 34 years since 1945, well under half can even charitably be described as years of strong government.

However, to many contemporary eyes, the firm smack of the Thatcher years is the norm. Mr Major is therefore seen in terms of the unusual Thatcher era rather than the more

usual weak governments before that. Mr Major's position has been made more difficult by her legacy, the splits over Europe and the economy, and the upheavals surrounding her fall. That led to a high turnover of senior ministers as several former close allies left the cabinet to spend more time with their families, their directorships, or, at least, away from her. That has robbed the present cabinet of experience and ballast, producing a distinctly patchy front bench. The manner of Baroness Thatcher's departure, and her desire to keep the flame alight over Europe, created a band of irreconcilables on the back benches, and a few in junior ministerial ranks, who would like to see the back of the prime minister. Each time Mr Major struggles to

break free of the Thatcherite past, he is dragged back. That has turned what should be a comfortable working majority of 21 into a minority government on many issues. Government whips have to calculate how to minimise any revolt by Tory MPs and how to win over the minority parties. Government by concession and compromise is required not just over the Maastricht Bill but also over pit closures, the future of naval dockyards and army cutbacks. Avoidance of defeats may not be a glorious strategy, but it is inevitable.

Final approval of the Maastricht Bill (probably not until October) and definite economic recovery are necessary preconditions for any hope of strong government, but they are not sufficient. Unemployment will continue to rise for some time and now has a tight grip in Tory areas, unlike the recession of the early 1980s. The government will also have, before long, to take action to reduce public sector borrowing. Income tax will no doubt be cut before the next election but it will be in the context of generally higher taxes and squeezed spending programmes.

As important are political constraints — the existence of the Thatcherite irreconcilables and a probably declining Commons majority as by-elections occur, reinforced by the impression that the government lacks coherence and direction. The time of maximum personal danger for Mr Major could be in the summer and autumn of 1994, after a probably 'bad' run of local and European elections that spring, and if economic recovery is still sluggish. The present jitteriness at Westminster should not, however, be exaggerated. The Major cabinet may be stumbling from one mishap and U-turn to the next, highlighted by its confused manoeuvrings over the social chapter amendment to the Maastricht Bill. But none of the current difficulties need prove fatal. Previous governments have been in far worse positions, economically and politically. More likely is that we are seeing a return to the normal post-war pattern of weak governments managing relative decline.

## Euro-Kinnocks

POWER couples, it seems, are all the rage, and where the Clintons have led the Kinnocks may yet follow. For if, as now seems likely, Glenys Kinnock is duly elected a Labour Euro-MP next year, Neil may not be far behind her on the way to Brussels.

This may come as something of a surprise to those who thought Kinnock's hopes of becoming one of Britain's highly paid EC commissioners had been ended last year. The job had looked to be all his after John Major, John Smith and Kinnock dined together at Downing Street. But the cabinet was split over the appointment. The result was that when the job failed to materialise Kinnock let it be known that he never wanted it anyway.

Now it appears he may have had a change of heart. If the offer is still on the table next time the commissioners change, in two years' time, he may well allow his name to go forward.

Success second time round

for Kinnock could bring dual rewards, the first of which should be the presence of Glenys, who is expected to fight the safe Labour seat of South East Wales at the Euro elections next June. The second is the fact that the 1995 commissioners will be appointed for five years rather than the present two.

Assuming the cabinet is in more generous mood in 1995 (and still there, of course) the only drawback for Kinnock would be resigning his Westminster seat of Islwyn. But with a majority of 25,000, finding a successor is one of the few things the Labour leadership does not have to worry about.

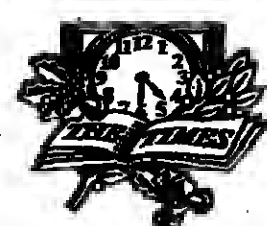
### Getting abusive

BBC Scotland is desperately trying to play down reports that it plans to turn the Orkney child abuse scandal into a "television blockbuster". "That's not the case at all," says a spokeswoman. What is the case, she admits, is that the BBC in Glasgow is

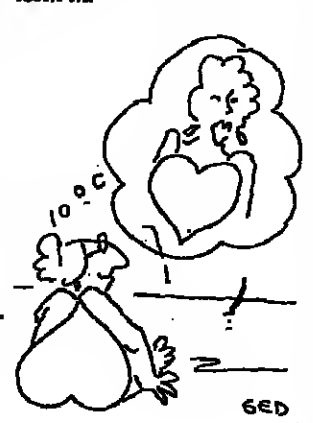
"at the very early stages of discussion and development" on a drama-documentary project dealing with the harrowing events of two years ago.

Early stages or not, the adverse reaction to the idea, especially from the parents of the children taken into care, is likely to present Colin Cameron, a former head of documentary features in London, with one of his biggest headaches since becoming head of television in Scotland last year.

Preparing a draft script for the project, however, is a man well used to controversy, Michael Eaton. Previous screen-writing credits include Yorkshire Television's *Shoot to Kill* documentary on the Stalker enquiry and *Why Lockerbie?* for Granada. But Eaton, it appears, does not confine himself to fighting modern day wrongs. He is also one of the world's leading authorities on Robin Hood. Orkney parents, however, will be hoping that his latest project rides straight out of the glen.



latest issue of the Jewish Chronicle proves. "Flying granny seeks north London boyfriend, 65 to 75, to make her feel 60 again. Looking for a good looking, good listener, keen on bridge, films and long-term friendship. Send picture... with teeth in."



## DIARY

### Feather footed

A RARE sighting of the elusive DJM is expected later this spring when Nature Notes, a regular feature in *The Times* since 1981, are collected into a new book, *The New Times Nature Diary*. For those who do not know, the enigmatic initials DJM belong to Derwent May, formerly editor of *The Listener* and literary editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, who proposed the idea to the then editor of *The Times*, Harold Evans.

Evans accepted and May has been detailing nature in all its glory ever since. His latest observation on great crested grebes and lesser celandines appear over the page (16). May says he wants the notes to be a "bulletin about what is going on in the country, not sloppy or roman-

tic. People can go out of their front door and into the field and get a really accurate account of what birds would be singing, what flowers opening, at that time of year." May, a keen ornithologist, is based in London but travels to the countryside every weekend. On Sunday he files "200 words exactly" to *The Times*. He claims to have "never missed a week".

He treats the inevitable comparison with William Boyd, the unlikely hero of Evelyn Waugh's *Scoop*, with an ornithologist's patience. "Yes, I've had the boot put in a few times," May sighs. "But we are different. He was a nature writer who became a journalist by mistake. I am a journalist who has become a nature writer as well."

### 100% proof

MALT whisky makers on Islay are fiercely rebutting a monstrous slur that certain of their products owe their flavour to peat "imported" from Aberdeenshire.

James McEwan of Morrison Bowmore Distillers is adamant that Islay's flavour is all home grown. "Bowmore lov-

## Going down in style

●A fortnight ago in *The Independent Magazine*, Susan Guppy (right) wrote in praise of what she dubbed her "grand progenitor" and "cousin", Karen Blithen, author of *Out of Africa*. In it Guppy recalled a letter Blithen wrote to her mother in which Blithen confessed: "A certain love of greatness, which could not be quelled, has kept a hold on me, has been my 'demon'." A thought, no doubt, for Guppy's son Darin to bear in mind as he begins his as yet unspecified prison sentence for fraud.



ers can rest assured that only Islay peat is used in the production of our whisky." All to do with that vital ingredient the peat reek, he says. Lang may continue.

●CAUSE for celebration at the Reform Club in Pall Mall. A bust of Charles Barry, the architect who designed the building in 1841, has been replaced after a year in the hands of repairers. The dam-

age happened when an enthusiastic member careered downstairs after a tiring lunch and pulled the white marble bust from its perch, half way up the main stairs. The bust broke in three — shoulders, head and "hair". Now mended, it occupies a marginally safer position further down the stairs. Despite the repairs' best efforts, a faint line is visible round the neck. Not unlike a few members.



















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**England's agony, page 2**

## Wright injured

**Wright's class, page 22**







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India poised to win second Test match and clinch series as one batting collapse follows another

# Lewis century prolongs agony for England

FROM PETER BALL  
IN MADRAS

FOR the second match in succession, England are being comprehensively outplayed. By the end of the fourth day of the second Test match they still needed 43 runs to make India bat again, and have only two wickets in hand.

Undermined by illness and twice losing the toss on pitches where it was an important factor, they have had little luck this series, but being forced to follow on in both Tests speaks for itself.

England have now been asked to follow on three times in succession by Azharuddin. The first time was at the Oval in 1990, a game that ended in a draw, but such an outcome this time is unthinkable.

Yet although England's performances have been blighted by batting collapses - in each innings here over the weekend - the final session yesterday belonged to Chris Lewis, who reached an undefeated maiden Test century on his 25th birthday.

Hick and Fairbrother, who played a brave innings earlier yesterday, also recorded their highest Test scores as, rather less significantly, did Tufnell. Their performances offered England some rare comfort.

On Saturday, Hick at last looked the batsman that county cricket has known for several years. Until he got out after misjudging the length, the decision raised one or two eyebrows - he had batted with freedom and looked in complete control.

His departure set in train the first-innings collapse as five wickets went down for 22 runs, and England's hopes of avoiding the follow-on receded with him. It was a measure of the stature of Fairbrother's innings that, when he and Jarvis were together, optimism was revived. It was the Lancashire captain's highest Test innings by a considerable distance and unquestionably his best. He mixed determination, fine judgment and pluck in equal measure.

He had clearly decided that on a pitch that offered increasing turn from some spreading holes on a length and a large rough outside his off stump, occupation of the crease was no longer enough. He mixed careful defensive play with judicious aggression, cutting and driving with his usual relish and picking up Raju with the spin for several lusty blows to mid-wicket and one straight six.

His resistance had lasted 34 hours before he looked for a gap that was not there and steered a catch to slip. Sadly, his example was not followed as England began their second innings 274 behind.

They were in trouble immediately. Kapil Dev, who needed 18 wickets to overtake Sir Richard Hadlee's Test record, quickly took two of them.



Mass appeal: More, the India wicketkeeper, and Kumble, the bowler, lead the celebrations as Smith is dismissed yesterday, caught at short leg by Amre. It was the first of Kumble's five wickets

Stewart, who had moved right across his wicket, was trapped; leg-before in his third over, and Hick went in his fourth, the first after lunch. More, the wicketkeeper, failed to hang on to an edge from Gattling in the same over, but England were in dire straits soon enough. Gattling fell sweeping for the second time in four innings to start another collapse.

Smith, who had relished starting against the faster bowlers, reached his fifty before becoming the first of Kumble's five victims. Blakey was bowled not playing a shot, and Fairbrother skied an intended big hit to mid-off. Four wickets had gone for 28 runs.

Then came Lewis. While Fairbrother shouldered responsibility at a crucial stage, by the time Lewis arrived the game was effectively lost and he was able to play with freedom.

He took the opportunity with relish. He has an uncomplicated method - if the ball is there, he hits it - but two off drives were as good as any strokes in the match. He moved from 95 to 101 with his second six, going down the pitch to hit Raju high over long on. It had taken him 112 balls, a good rate in any match, let alone a Test, and he also hit 13 fours. On a turning pitch, it was a considerable achievement.



The best form of defence: Lewis hits out on the way to his maiden Test century

## Prichard shines in dull company

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT  
IN MELBOURNE

FOR Madras, read Melbourne. The alarming disclosure of English batsmen's technical ineptitude against the turning ball is not confined to the seniors in India, as yesterday's sorry display by the A team made painfully plain.

There was some solace for Keith Fletcher in an accomplished innings from his protégé, Paul Prichard, but little else to console as the touring side was dismissed by the Australian Cricket Academy for 220, largely through the efforts of two spin bowlers with modest records. Heavy on talented batting, the Academy side betrays the lack of depth in Australian bowling.

In mitigation, this was not a typical Melbourne pitch. Relaid, and unturfed, it offered the seam bowlers bounce and movement, then turned as soon as spin was introduced.

Norman Gifford, the England coach, estimated that 260 would have been a par score. So he was not too downcast by 220, but some of the dismissals among the top order would have had him chewing his pipe almost through the stem. He considered Graham Thorpe and Graham Lloyd the guinea-pigs. "Thorpe was looking to charge down the pitch against the turning ball just before lunch and Lloyd was hitting to leg against the spin."

England, who had won the toss, declined from 51 without loss to 95 for five. Peter McIntyre's leg breaks and the left-arm spin of Jamie Stewart were well supported by conditions but certain batsmen played as if they had never seen a ball turn.

Already without David Millns and Dominic Cork through injury, the touring team's casualty list grew with a blow on the left foot to James Boiling. He was to have the swollen big toe x-rayed today but was not expected to bowl in the match.

### SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND A XI: First Innings  
M A Robinson c Gilchrist b McIntyre 14  
M C Brown c Perring b Stewart 20  
P J Prichard c Gilchrist b Cook 20  
G P Thorpe c Gilchrist b McIntyre 2  
D Lloyd c Brown b Stewart 17  
O J Campbell c Gilchrist b Stewart 10  
R C Russell c Gilchrist b McIntyre 32  
A R Caddick c Brown b Cook 13  
M C Ball c McIntyre b Cook 3  
P M Such c Gilchrist b Cook 3  
Extras (b 3, w 3, nb 2) 16  
Total 220  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-51, 2-55, 3-58, 4-78, 5-95, 6-101, 7-101, 8-110, 9-115.  
BOWLING: Cook 16.2-7-21-2; Caddick 20-8-27-2; Law 9.5-14-0; McIntyre 29-8-65-3; Brown 6-1-15-1; Stewart 21-5-51-2.  
AUSTRALIAN CRICKET ACADEMY XI: First Innings  
O Hills not out 1  
M Slater not out 1  
Extras (b 3) 2  
Total (no wickets) 220  
BOWLING: M Gifford 10-1-10-0; S Law 14-12-7; Wicket: R K Bailey and Lodi (3), 12-9, 12-7. Women's first: K Bailey and Lodi (3), 12-9, 12-7. Women's second: M. 12-3, 12-10.

INDIA: First Innings 560 for 6 dec (S R Tendulkar 165, N S Sidhu 106, P K Amre 78, Kapil Dev 68 not out, V G Kambli 59)			
ENGLAND: First Innings			
R A Smith bow b Kumble	17	0	1 100 84
Playing back to top spinner			
A J Stewart bow b Kapil Dev	56	0	8 312 258
Pushed low catch to short leg			
G A Hick bow b Chaudhary	64	0	11 145 122
Playing on short as he played back			
N H Fairbrother c Kapil b Chaudhary	83	1	10 198 159
Swing into stumps			
C C Lewis c Azharuddin b Raju	0	0	8 7
Edged hitting ball to second slip			
D K Salunke bow b Kumble	4	0	1 40 33
Playing back to top spinner			
P W Jarvis c sub (W V Ramer) b Raju	0	1	58 48
Low catch to slip			
P C R Tufnell c Azharuddin b Chaudhary	2	0	25 14
Turned ball to short leg			
O E Malcott not out	0	0	8 6
Extras (b 14, lb 16, nb 2) 32			
Total (475min, 127.3 overs) 266			
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48 (Stewart 24), 2-157 (Stewart 55), 3-189 (Stewart 71), 4-175 (Fairbrother 8), 5-179 (Fairbrother 8), 6-179 (Fairbrother 8), 7-220 (Fairbrother 37), 8-277 (Fairbrother 83), 9-279 (Tufnell 2).			
BOWLING: Prichard 2-2-4-0 (one spell); Kumble 25-9-61-2 (nb2) (4-3-8-0, 5-3-13-1, 7-2-13-0, 1-1-0-0, 7-0-27-1); Chaudhary 38.3-16-89-3 (1-0-2-0, 4-2-4-0, 4-0-16-0, 4-0-10-0, 22-13-25-1, 4-3-1-12); Raju 54-21-102-4 (14-9-12-0, 3-1-14-0, 4-0-21-0, 7-2-10-0, 26-5-46-0); Kapil Dev 4-0-11-0 (nb1) (one spell); Tendulkar 5-1-4-0 (five spells).			
Second Innings			
R A Smith c Amre b Kumble	56	0	10 103 98
Pushed low catch to short leg			
A J Stewart bow b Kapil Dev	0	0	22 8
Playing across the line - hit on back foot			
G A Hick c Tendulkar b Kapil Dev	0	0	8 8
Driving an outsider			
M W Gatting bow b Raju	18	0	3 50 48
Stretching forward to sweep			
N H Fairbrother c Prichard b Kumble	0	1	46 33
Settled to deep mid off			
P J Bailey b Kumble	8	0	1 14 13
Playing no shot			
C C Lewis not out	108	2	14 151 125
D K Salunke bow b Kumble	12	0	1 83 61
Top spinner decided through			
P W Jarvis c Tendulkar b Kumble	2	0	0 15 12
Firm glance to leg slip			
P C R Tufnell not out	10	0	1 25 30
Extras (b 4, lb 15) 19			
Total (8 wds, 27.1min, 71 overs) 231			
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10 (Smith 9), 2-12 (Smith 11), 3-71 (Smith 47), 4-82 (Fairbrother 2), 5-86 (Fairbrother 4), 6-98 (Lewis 4), 7-172 (Lewis 62), 8-186 (Lewis 74).			
BOWLING: Prichard 2-2-4-0 (one spell); Kapil Dev 11-6-36-2 (7-3-20-2, 4-2-16-0); Raju 28-8-75-1 (10-1-28-1, 1-0-3-0, 7-2-24-0, 5-0-24-0); Chaudhary 18-5-51-0 (10-2-7-0, 5-0-22-0, 1-0-2-0); Kumble 18-5-51-5 (7-2-20-3, 9-3-31-2); Tendulkar 2-1-4-0 (one spell).			
Umpires: V K Ramewar and Professor R S Rasthara.			

### BOXING

## Piper sets Eubank and Benn in title sights

NICKY Piper, the Welsh super-middleweight, lifted the World Boxing Association Penta-continental championship at Manchester on Saturday, by outpointing Miguel Maldonado, of Argentina, but it was no more than the badge for an under-champion (Srikumar Sen writes). By the end of the year Piper believes he will become a real champion by taking either Chris Eubank's World Boxing Organisation title or Nigel Benn's World Boxing Council belt.

A challenge for Eubank's title has been pencilled in by Barry Hearn, the London promoter, for September at an open-air venue in Cardiff. Piper would prefer a return with Benn first, even though he was stopped in 11 rounds by the WBC champion in December last year. He believes he has enough experience to beat Benn - and Eubank.

"I am not saying it is going to be easy," Piper said. "But I am very confident. I was so stiff last time because I gave Benn too much respect. I would be a lot looser. He doesn't punch as hard as you think. Eubank would be more picky but I would outlast him. He looks fit but he isn't fit. He doesn't do his roadwork."

## Volleyball wins approval from IOC beachcombers

STAND alongside: Randy Stoklos, the first prize-money millionaire of beach volleyball, or Keat Steffes and you feel a bit of a midget. At 6ft 4in and at more than 14st, they have the impressive muscular power of Steve Redgrave yet some of the flexibility of Daley Thompson. In terms of athleticism, it is difficult to argue against their place in the Olympic Games. In comparison with Greco Roman wrestling, say, it seems no contest.

I have just witnessed the final tournament of the beach volleyball World Series, spectacular to a degree I would not have imagined. Indeed, the international federation could have a problem: the men's pairs game on sand has more drama than the conventional indoor game. Because diving to retrieve shots is painless, the tactical scope is at times exceptional, while the two-man team promotes the character of both the individuals and the partnership in the same way as tennis.

"I have an open mind," Philippe Chatier, chairman of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) programme commission and former international tennis president, said yesterday. "I think there is too much space on the court in the women's game... but the volleyball federation are the experts and, if they want the event, why should they not have it?"

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the IOC, in attendance with four members of his executive board, was in no doubts. "I am convinced," he said. "It is inexpensive, accessible to anyone with a pair of shorts, a ball and a net, and harmless to the environment. If Atlanta wish to include beach volleyball for the Centenary Games, I feel sure the IOC is likely to agree."



DAVID MILLER  
Rio de Janeiro

Billy Payne, president of the Atlanta organising committee, arrived overnight especially for the finals. "We can accommodate anything we set our minds on," he said, having recently abandoned his ambition to bring golf to the Games. "I think we would stage beach volleyball at Savannah, alongside the yachting, which is not a spectacular sport." Savannah has miles of golden beach.

More than 15,000 spectators were packed into the temporary stand almost two hours before the start yesterday. The mood was electric throughout the two-and-a-half hours of the two finals, even though both the Brazilian men and women were defeated by Americans in straight sets after leading in the second set.

This is the only sport in which they benignly turn the hoses on the crowd. Every ten or 15 minutes, as the temperature soared above 100, two powerjets would spray the spectators, dressed uniformly in the yellow and green of Brazil.

The series was notable for the semi-final defeat of Sijm Smith and Stoklos by Ambrino and Lodiola, of Brazil, only the second defeat of the American pair. Stoklos was the son of an immigrant Polish factory worker and took up the game only because his father refused to let him play anything else because of the expense. He enjoys an ironic last laugh... and still talks to his father.

The live Brazilian television audience yesterday was seven million, with recordings transmitted to a 200 million worldwide audience. The tournament's 13 multi-national sponsors included British Airways. Steffes and Johnson, the men's winners, are this morning some \$30,000 better off. Steffes's winnings having passed \$800,000.

RESULTS: Men's final: K Steffes and A Johnson (USA) beat Ambrino and Lodiola (BR), 12-9, 12-7. Women's final: K Bailey and Lodi (USA) beat Adriana and Monica, 12-3, 12-10.



# Blackburn enjoy last laugh as Wegerle earns comic relief



Wegerle: last-minute winner

Blackburn Rovers ..... 1  
Newcastle United ..... 0

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

ROY of the Rovers has been a long tale in the telling, and Blackburn must hope it is not over yet. For if they are to have anything to show for the most remarkable season in their history, other than a feeling of well-being and the envy of less prosperous rivals, there must be a happy ending.

Roy Wegerle's last-minute goal cleansed the Ewood stables after four successive defeats had threatened to sap the belief of this expensive assembled side. Moreover, their overall performance confirmed that, in Alan Shearer's prolonged absence, Blackburn will become increasingly dependent on his skills in the final weeks of the season.

Wegerle's contribution to an FA Cup fifth-round tie that failed to realise its potential was immense. Without him, there would hardly have been a game worth watching, so cautious was Newcastle's approach, and it was entirely appropriate that he eventually won it with a goal which betokened not just class but a style granted to few.

Controlling an upfield hack from May with the outside of his right foot, he composed himself as he entered the penalty area, deceived Killdine and Venison with a lurch to the right to gain an important additional yard, and beat Smieck, who had committed himself to protecting the left-hand post, with a clean shot into the other corner.

As children of all ages know, Roy of the Rovers scored goals like that every week. All the moment needed was a bubble floating above the Nuttall Street Stand saying: "It's all over for Newcastle, bar the shouting." Indeed it

was, leaving the first-division side to the not entirely negligible business of winning promotion.

Wegerle also has important business to settle. No striker wants to live in another's shadow and Saturday's match-winner has begun no fewer than 21 games this season on the bench. Before Shearer injured his knee, he and Wegerle had started just one league match together, the 7-1 defeat of Norwich City in October.

By one of those quirks, Wegerle's return eight games ago coincided with the exposure of defensive frailties that saw Blackburn leak 14 goals in four games preceding this tie. Moran's return at centre half was just as significant a factor in victory.

It might have been achieved more thoroughly had Wilcox not missed appallingly when Smieck's half-save of Wegerle's shot fell for him inside the six-yard box. The retreating Venison

did well to block the first attempt before Wilcox inexorably sent his follow-up high over the bar.

It is difficult to judge how much it all means to Blackburn folk. Don Mackay, whose departure led to Kenny Dalglish's arrival at Ewood, used to say there was room for a top-flight club in Lancashire beyond Manchester and Liverpool. True, but in terms of the capacity to support a big club, Blackburn are less equipped than Burnley, despite Jack Walker's philanthropy.

Last Wednesday, for their Coca-Cola Cup semi-final, Blackburn attracted 4,000 fewer supporters than Burnley pulled in last year for a fourth-division fixture. If Burnley ever replicated their neighbours' wealth and success, Turf Moor would be full to overflowing every week.

Kevin Keegan, who was absent with flu, would not have commended his team's lack of ambition. Too many

players offered too little, Lee excepted, and the manager will have to buy wisely in the summer.

For every Gordie a rainstorm precedes a terrific rainbow, which is why Keegan was happy to return to St James' Park. In the manner of Gilbert Kaplan, the music-loving American publisher who wants to conduct the symphonies of Mahler and nobody else, Keegan wants to manage Newcastle United. Nothing else will do.

There is no time for self-pity. On Sunday, Newcastle go to West Ham, who, by winning, would move to within a point of the leaders. After a little difficulty in the Cup, that is the sort of challenge which concentrates the mind wonderfully.

BLACKBURN ROVERS: R Mirams, D May, A Wright, T Sheppard, C Hendry, A Meenan, M Adams, G Connors, R Wegerle, M Newell, R Wilcox.  
NEWCASTLE UNITED: R Smieck, B Venison, J Beardsford, L O'Brien, R Scott, B Killdine, R Lee, G Pasquod, O Kelly, L Clark, P Sheedy (sub: J Bracken), Referee: K Cooper (Pontypool)

## Tottenham happy to pull plug on unruly cup rivals

Tottenham Hotspur ..... 3  
Wimbledon ..... 2

By CLIVE WHITE

GARY Lineker would have enjoyed watching Wimbledon yesterday — watching them lose, that is. The entertainment in a game that would have made compulsive viewing, even on CeeFax, for all Tottenham supporters, was provided exclusively by the North London club, which would not have been flattered had its three-goal half-time lead been sustained to the finish of this FA Cup fifth-round tie at White Hart Lane.

Wimbledon were a disappointment, even if they would

not have been to Lineker, who became embroiled in a war of words with the Wimbledon manager last week for saying he would rather watch CeeFax than Joe Kinnear's team.

Lineker would have felt vindicated by Wimbledon's performance. They lost this tie because of characteristic ill-discipline that cost them three bookings in the space of six minutes immediately before two goals in three minutes by Tottenham, which effectively ended Wimbledon's interest in the competition this season.

Wimbledon competed on an equal footing with Tottenham for no more than 20 minutes of a match that started at a predictably fast and furious pace.

Tottenham were superior in just about every department, although their victory was undoubtedly founded on the twin central pillars of their defence, Ruddock and Mabbutt. But it was Tottenham's traditionally short, sweet-passing game that did for Wimbledon.

Wimbledon had gone more than six hours without conceding a goal so it was clearly going to take some inventive football to break down. Yet Spurs first goal after 25 minutes might have been taken straight out of the Wimbledon manual.

Ruddock hoisted the ball to the far post, where Barry did well to nudge it back into the middle for Anderton to force home past Segers.

When Wimbledon had been asked beforehand in the dressing-room to turn down their ghetto blaster, they had responded by turning up the volume: when Tottenham pulled the plug on their power, the Dons sent out for batteries. This time they were well and truly disconnected.

Wimbledon began losing their discipline and their shape as Elkins, Holdsworth and McAllister were brought to book by Martin Bodenham. The pressure was steadily intensifying on Segers' goal.

Just as we were thinking that Spurs' skill warranted a goal, one arrived from a corner as Earle inadvertently nodded on Anderton's corner and Sheringham pounded home a header for his seventh goal in six games.

Wimbledon were on the ropes. Ruddock drilled another deep one to where McAllister nodded it straight out to Anderton, whose pinpoint cross was directed home with perfect accuracy by the head of Barry.

Wimbledon grabbed an unlikely goal in the 64th minute when Dobbs lobbed over Thorstved following a melee and a second in injury time from a header by Cotterill, the substitute.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: E Thorstved; O Anderton, J Eastwood, V Samways, G Mabbutt, N Ruddock, O Howells, N Barry, O Anderton, T Sheringham, P Allen.  
WIMBLEDON: H Segers, R Joseph (sub: S Cotterill, G Elkins, V Jones, J Scates, B McAllister, M Andley, J Foshanu, O Holdsworth, G Dobbs).  
Referee: B Hall

## Short head keeps Rioch behind Cox

Derby County ..... 3  
Bolton Wanderers ..... 1

By LOUISE TAYLOR

DERBY County's status as the only non-Premier League side in the sixth round of the FA Cup is chiefly thanks to central defenders. Their own £2.5 million No. 5, Craig Short, scored twice on Saturday when County recorded a flattering win against Bolton, who were without both regular centre halves.

Had Scagraves not been suspended and Winstanley injured, it might well have been the Wanderers who progressed to the quarter-finals. Instead, Bolton's makeshift backline failed to repel Pembroke's early free kick and Short headed beyond the advancing Branagan.

Walker equalised for Bolton with his 24th goal of the season and County lived dangerously until the 63rd minute. That was when Gabbadini headed on an another Pembroke free kick and Short shot his second. A further goal from Williams, the only goal in this £10 million Derby team, finally undid the second division side for which McGinlay hit a post and Walker came within a

whisker of a second. The rusting Sherpa Van, 1989 model, parked outside Burnden Park in honour of Bolton's lower division cup triumph in that year is not to be eclipsed by the FA Cup after all.

Maybe it is Derby's season, but Arthur Cox, their manager, must have been mightily relieved that fortune frowned on Bolton on a day when Derby looked decidedly mediocre and his board extended a warm welcome to the visiting manager, Bruce Rioch.

Part of Derby's championship-winning midfield in 1975, Rioch has not signed a contract at Bolton and rumours abound that depressed by nine home first division defeats, Lionel Pickering, the Derby owner, wonders whether Rioch, assisted by Colin Todd, Bolton's No. 2, might not be a better custodian for his millions than Cox.

Pickering, however, will not be quibbling about the player on whom Cox splashed a quarter of his total outlay. Short has scored in every round of the FA Cup.  
DERBY COUNTY: M Taylor, M Patterson, M Forsyth, S Coleman, C Short, M Pembroke, P Williams, M Nani, P Kilson, M Gabbadini, P Scagraves.  
BOLTON WANDERERS: N Branagan, P Brown, O Burke, L Lyke, A Stubbs, S Storey, J McKee, A Walker, J McGinlay, M Patterson.  
Referee: B Hall



High kickers: Barry, left, of Tottenham, leaps to challenge Elkins, of Wimbledon, at White Hart Lane

## Injured Wright awaits just reward

Arsenal ..... 2  
Nottingham Forest ..... 0

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

IAN Wright has done little wrong since his world caved in at White Hart Lane on December 12, when he struck out at David Howells, the Tottenham Hotspur midfielder player, and sentenced himself to an undignified trial by television and a subsequent three-match suspension.

Since that silly swipe, Wright has played 12 games, scored 12 times and not once walked on the wild side. An exemplary record and no easy feat for a jack-in-the-box character who thrives on hustle, bustle and the constant menacing of defenders.

Such clean living should have been rewarded with his first international goals for England against San Marino

at Wembley on Wednesday. Instead, he faces a worrying wait.

Wright had already earned Arsenal a place in the FA Cup quarter-finals at Highbury on Saturday with two goals of stunning quality. Chasing a hat-trick in injury time, when most would have been satisfied with their afternoon's work, he pulled a groin muscle and had to be helped off.

Nottingham Forest will again testify to the calibre of the England forward, who also scored twice against them in their 2-0 Coca-Cola Cup defeat by Arsenal last month. But for his fluent finishes this time around, in a messy and muddled fifth-round tie, they could have edged nearer fulfilling the final wish of Brian Clough.

Time is running out for the Forest manager to lift the FA Cup — the only leading trophy to have eluded him — and the

wastefulness of his son, Nigel, contributed to the latest knockout blow. Wright's superlative 21st-minute volley separated the teams but Forest had broken free of Arsenal's smothering midfield.

Bannister dispossessed Linighan and Keane swept in a tempting cross from the left, inviting Clough Jr to bury the ball with honours. Instead, he ballooned it high over the bar. Eight minutes later, Wright pounced on Selley's pass, avoided Pearce, twisted Chettle inside out and clipped his shot past Crossley via the crossbar for his 22nd goal of the season. On the Bo Derek scale, it was a definite ten.

It also earned a respite for George Graham, the Arsenal manager, who was spared the task of trying to explain the inexplicable — why his side has slipped so far in the Premier League.

Graham, like Clough Sr, has yet to win his first FA Cup as a manager but with a last-eight place secure and a Coca-Cola Cup final berth as good as booked, his season is moving forward on a positive course. "There are three trophies to be won at the start of the season and we're still in with a chance of two of them," he said, quietly conceding that the championship will not nest in north London this year.

Clough's dream disappeared for another term on Saturday. Graham's is still alive and kicking, and Wright's is in the lap of the medical gods. The FA Cup never fails to inspire mixed emotions.

ARSENAL: O Seaman, L Dixon, N Whitworth, D Fisher, A Linighan, A Keane, J Bannister, J Wright (sub: S Morrison), S Selley, J Marston, A Linighan (sub: K Campbell).  
NOTTINGHAM FOREST: M Crossley, B Lowe, S Pearson, C Tiller, S Chettle, R Keane, G Bannister, S Denham, N Clough, N Webb (sub: G Crossley), I Wilson.  
Referee: A Gurn

## Minnows left to flounder by big Cup fish

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

SHEFFIELD Wednesday and Ipswich Town negotiated potentially tricky FA Cup fifth-round hurdles with aplomb on Saturday to keep the minnows firmly in place.

Reluctant striker Paul Warhurst was again Wednesday's match-winner, scoring both goals in a 2-0 defeat of Southend United, the struggling first-division side, at Hillsborough. Warhurst, a converted central defender who says he does not particularly like his emergency front-line role, certainly looked competent enough as he took his tally to 12 goals, seven of them in the last five games.

It was Wednesday's eleventh win in 13 games — the other two were drawn — and maintained their three-pronged assault on the leading honours.

Boncho Guenichev went one better with a hat-trick — the first of his career — as Ipswich won 4-0 to end any hopes Grimsby Town might have harboured about producing an upset at Portman Road.

Out of the FA Cup limelight, Aston Villa stole a march — and a two-point lead over Manchester United — at the top of the Premier League by winning 1-0 against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

Ray Houghton got the all-important goal, when a long clearance by Bosnich was headed on by Dalian Atkinson, back in the side after missing eight games through injury, and missed by two Chelsea defenders.

To complete their misery, Chelsea, without a win in 1993, had their winger, Dennis Wise, carried off with what was first feared to be a broken foot. It was later revealed to be a recurrence of the ligament injury that had kept him out for the previous eight games.

Leeds United eased fears of the unthinkable — relegation — with a 2-0 victory over struggling Oldham Athletic at Elland Road. But it was at a cost for the champions. Shutt being taken to hospital with damaged blood vessels around a lung. Liverpool, though, continue to struggle, losing 2-1 to Southampton at The Dell. "I'm not a happy boy," Graeme Souness, their manager, said.

## Rangers thank McCoist

THE bookmakers offered 16-1 against Airdrieonians bearing Rangers at Ibrox on Saturday but few were tempted to invest in such a speculation (Roddy Forsyth winks). Those who did were guaranteed a lively afternoon once Coyle scored for Airdrie, who are bottom of the premier division.

But McCoist scored twice to put the champions ahead at the interval and take him level with the postwar record of 206 league goals with one club, before Coyle's second earned Airdrie a point.

Struggling Falkirk were beaten 3-1 by Hearts at Tynecastle while Aberdeen and Celtic missed the opportunity to gain on Rangers by drawing 1-1 at Pittodrie.

Dundee United restored Duncan Ferguson to the side for their visit to Firhill, where he scored in their 4-0 victory over Partick Thistle. Dundee overtook Partick when they beat St Johnstone at Dens Park, where Simon Stainrod scored the only goal.

## Evergreen Reid drives gifted City on road to Wembley

Manchester City ..... 2  
Barnsley ..... 0

By KEITH PIKE

THERE may be better teams than Manchester City left in the FA Cup but none better placed to win it. History, logic, and a greying 36-year-old, who can find his way to Wembley as easily as the England coach driver, dictate that Keith Curle will lift the trophy on May 15.

Peter Reid, the City player-manager, was not shouting the odds after their comfortable victory over Barnsley on Saturday, which took them into the sixth round for only the second time in 11 seasons. But City are in with a great chance and Reid, who appeared in three successive finals for Everton from 1984-6, must sense it.

History? No side has won the FA Cup and League Cup in the same season and, while Blackburn Rovers' hopes have gone flat, Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday are still flitting along in the Coca-Cola.

Only five sides have completed the league and FA Cup double in 120 years, so fate is

also against Ipswich Town and Blackburn again, as it is against a side from outside the top division in Derby County. Sheffield United have survived rather than Cup success in mind. Tottenham? The year does not end in a one.

Logic? That leaves Manchester City. Their 1993 vintage might not have the craft of Summerbee, the graft of Bell, the goalscoring prowess of Lee or the languid touches of Young, whose goal past Peter Shilton won the Cup against Leicester City in 1969.

But they are single-minded — safe from relegation and, at 13 points behind Aston Villa, almost as certainly not in the running for the Premier League — and in form, with only one defeat in 12 games. They can also appear, as they did on Saturday, a gifted team led by a shrewd operator.

Reid's masterstroke was to play Gary Flitcroft, the highly talented youngster, at right back, nullifying the threat of Barnsley's potential match-winner, Rammell, and allowing him to launch City's raids down the flanks in harness with Phelan on the left.

With Curle looking every penny a £2.5 million defender, Quinn every inch a menacing 6ft 4in target man and Reid cajoling and prompting from midfield, City simply had too many guns for Barnsley. They also had White, recapturing the form that took him into the England team in September by scoring both goals. "We're on our way to Wembley," the City fans chanted. They might just be right.

MANCHESTER CITY: A Cohen, P Reid (sub: A Hall, T Freeman, F Simpson, K Curle, M York, O White, M Short, N Quinn, G Russell, R Holden).  
BARNSELEY: L Blair, M Robinson, G Bennett (sub: G Wilkinson, C Balfour, G Taggart, B O'Connell, D Currie, A Bennett).  
A Liverpool (sub: W Boggs), N Redmond, O Ardwick.  
Referee: K Baratt



Reid: masterstroke

## THE TIMES TABLE OF THE FA PREMIER LEAGUE

Weekly change	P	Pts	Goal Diff	W (H-A)	D (H-A)	L (H-A)	For (H-A)	Agst (H-A)	Recent form
1 (+1) Aston Villa	29	53	+15	15 (9-6)	8 (3-5)	8 (2-4)	45 (28-17)	30 (13-17)	wwwww
2 (-1) Manchester Utd	28	51	+20	14 (9-5)	9 (3-6)	5 (2-3)	42 (25-17)	22 (10-12)	wwwwd
3 (0) Norwich	27	48	-1	14 (8-6)	6 (4-2)	7 (1-6)	40 (20-20)	41 (12-29)	cdwdw
4 (+1) Ipswich	28	43	+5	10 (6-4)	13 (7-6)	5 (1-4)	37 (22-15)	32 (15-17)	rwddd
5 (-1) Coventry	28	42	+6	11 (6-5)	9 (3-6)	8 (6-2)	44 (22-22)	38 (20-18)	ldwww
6 (0) Blackburn	27	41	+10	11 (5-3)	8 (2-6)	8 (4-4)	40 (25-15)	30 (15-15)	ldwll
7 (+1) QPR	27	41	+5	11 (6-5)	8 (3-5)	8 (3-5)	37 (26-11)	32 (21-11)	wldwld
8 (-1) Manchester City	27	40	+9	11 (5-6)	7 (4-3)	9 (4-5)	39 (20-19)	30 (14-16)	cdwdd
9 (0) Sheffield Wed	26	39	+5	10 (6-4)	9 (4-5)	7 (3-4)	35 (20-15)	30 (16-14)	cdwwww
10 (+2) Tottenham	28	38	-7	10 (6-4)	8 (4-4)	10 (4-6)	32 (19-13)	39 (17-22)	ldwww
11 (-1) Chelsea	29	37	-4	9 (4-5)	10 (6-4)	10 (5-5)	32 (15-17)	36 (17-19)	ldldl
12 (+5) Southampton	29	36	-1	9 (7-2)	9 (5-4)	11 (3-8)	34 (21-13)	35 (13-22)	wwwww
13 (-2) Arsenal	26	35	0	10 (6-4)	5 (3-2)	11 (5-6)	25 (16-9)	25 (12-13)	cdldw
14 (-1) Leeds	28	35	-1	9 (6-3)	8 (3-5)	11 (1-10)	41 (32-9)	42 (14-28)	wwldw
15 (-2) Liverpool	27	34	-1	9 (7-2)	7 (3-4)	11 (3-8)	38 (25-13)	39 (14-25)	ldwld
16 (0) Wimbledon	28	30	-3	8 (4-4)	9 (4-5)	11 (6-5)	33 (16-16)	36 (19-17)	cdwldw
17 (+2) Crystal Palace	28	33	-9	8 (4-4)	9 (5-4)	11 (5-6)	35 (17-18)	44 (18-26)	ldwww
18 (-4) Everton	28	32	-7	9 (4-5)	5 (4-1)	14 (8-6)	30 (13-17)	37 (17-20)	wwwll
19 (+1) Middlesbrough	28	30	-11	7 (6-1)	9 (4-5)	12 (4-8)	36 (21-15)	47 (16-32)	ldwll
20 (+2) Sheffield Utd	27	28	-9	7 (6-1)	7 (3-2)	13 (3-11)	27 (17-10)	36 (10-28)	ldwll
21 (-1) Oldham	27	27	-12	7 (6-1)	6 (3-3)	14 (4-10)	38 (25-13)	50 (18-32)	ldwll
22 (-1) Nottm Forest	26	25	-9	6 (4-2)	7 (2-5)	13 (6-7)	26 (11-15)	35 (11-24)	ldwll

TRANSFERS: Stephen Agnew (Leicester City) from Blackburn, £250,000. LOANS: Paul Tisdale (Southampton) to Northampton.

Statistics refer to Premier League only.







# Llanelli put themselves in running for title

Cardiff ..... 13  
Llanelli ..... 18

By GERALD DAVIES

ALTHOUGH with this loss Cardiff are equal on points with Swansea, they retain the lead in the Heineken League by virtue of a higher try count (70 to 56). Llanelli, three points below, have the benefit of a game in hand and wait for the others to falter. They have ten more tries than Cardiff and, having beaten them by three tries and a penalty goal to two tries and a penalty on Saturday, are in commanding mood. Anything can happen.

Llanelli look on paper to have the easier ride in to the end of the season, with only Neath away on the last Saturday likely to pose any problems. The top two teams both have to travel away to Bridgend, who have won their last six matches. Cardiff and Swansea face each other on the final Saturday, on which many a decision could hang.

For all the many good moments in an exciting encounter on Saturday, there were an equal number of bad ones. Both sides could have done with an accurate kicker. There were 17 attempts at goal, with only two successes.

Although Stephens allowed time for his kick to be charged down for Budd to score Cardiff's first try, and later ignored a pot at goal 20 metres out, running and then failing, it was he who scored two

crucial tries. His latter lapse occurred after Cardiff had gone into the lead for the first time, 50 seconds into the second half. It is the kind of aberration of which England have twice demonstrated themselves capable in important matches, but it is not the kind of thing one expects from a Llanelli stand-off half. For all his talent, Stephens remains infuriatingly frustrating to watch and it is hard to be sympathetic with him.

There were other errors too. Time and again too many of the forwards from both teams insisted on playing the ball on the floor, which were elementary failures.

Llanelli's stirring start was rewarded with Stephens's first try in the fifth minute. After a prolonged period of Cardiff pressure, he was given the opportunity to add a penalty.

The visitors were in command but the match benefited from Budd's score.

After the interval and after a charging run by Kawulok, Ceri Thomas scored in the corner. Now the home team carried all before it but Rayer, trying for a long grubber kick to touch, found Stephens in the way. The ball rebounded off him and he was able to pick it up and run unopposed for his try.

Davies, who was suffering from a groin strain, kicked a penalty to draw level but from the kick-off Moon found ample room on the blind side of a ruck and ran 40 metres for the winning score. Llanelli kept a stranglehold on the game for the last quarter.

SCORERS: Cardiff: Tries: Budd, Thomas. Penalty goal: Davies. Llanelli: Tries: Stephens (2), Moon. Penalty goal: Stephens.

CARDIFF: M Rayer, S Ford, C Thomas, C Lally, N Walker, A Davies, M Moore, K Williams, J Humphreys, P Sedgwick, J Stone, P Kawulok, S Roy, M Budd, H Taylor, LLANELLI: J Jones, J Evans, S Davies, N Evans, J Williams, C Stephens, J Burns, Evans, A Llanelli, J Joseph, E Lewis, P Davies, A Corry, L Jones, S Quinell, Baines, W D Davis (WFL), J Smith (Glanrhydy).

John Hughes, the Tondur kick, became the first player to be sent off twice in a Heineken League season when he was dismissed after four minutes of the fourth division match against Ystradgynlais.



Stephens frustrating

## England axe dulls Andrew's aim

Wasps ..... 18  
London Irish ..... 9

By DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE times may be changing for England, and nobody knows that better than Rob Andrew, but in the Courage Clubs Championship they remain much the same. February's dip into the league left Wasps with their unbeaten record and Bath snarling in pursuit, eager for the day on March 13 when Wasps must visit the Recreation Ground.

Andrew's philosophical approach to life had never been more evident than last week after his omission from England's back division. But even he must have wondered whether some freakish spirit was on his shoulder after he contrived to miss five goal kicks on Saturday when the primary reason for his presence was to kick goals. That Phil Hopley subsequently missed three out of four was small comfort, but otherwise Andrew was happy that his game held up and that he had a hand in two tries as Wasps won by three tries and a penalty goal to three penalties.

They may reflect that, one day this season, everything will come right: they will score the tries their organisation and control suggests they should, will kick goals and beat somebody (Bath, perhaps) by a hatful. Until that day, rugby remains hard work for them. Five of their league wins have been by five points or fewer.

It may be coincidence but, across the first-division board this weekend, there were wholesale complaints of indifferent play: too many penalties, not enough tries. Dissatisfaction with the ruck-and-law continues at a time when, in Wellington, New Zealand, the southern-hemisphere nations confirmed their support for the experimental laws at their annual meeting.

The dissatisfaction does not embrace Wasps, whose coach, Rob Smith, believes in looking positively at the game. That respect for Andrew's league homecoming at Tondur was reminiscent of Toulouse, where his season began. His French club accepted the law and framed its game accordingly rather than shuffling suspiciously



Holding operation: Corcoran, of London Irish, prevents Andrew breaking free

and crossing its fingers that it would be repeated a year later.

"We have been trying hard to adjust to the new laws all season," Smith said. "The last six weeks have been difficult because the grounds have been so heavy. I thought we were beginning to show signs of getting the momentum going and then we scored three tries and created other good opportunities."

On the day, though, Wasps were a yard or so

away from a very good display against an Irish side whose mediocre form since Christmas belies its results in the first half of the season. At least it had a goalkicker, but it did not have the ball. Even when Wasps lost the injured Ryan with a trapped nerve in the shoulder just before half-time and had to adjust their scrum and lineout, they still dominated possession.

Corcoran's three goals kept the Irish nominally in touch at 13-9 at the interval,

but Hopley's second try after the one sustained movement of the game gave Wasps the edge that their back row and the tactical play of Bates, their scrum half, had earned them.

SCORERS: Wasps: Tries: Hopley (2), Bates. Penalty goal: Hopley. London Irish: Tries: Corcoran (3). Wasps: A Bates, P Hopley, F Cough, G Childs, C O'Leary, S Davies, G Holmes, K Dunn, J Probyn, F Edwards, R Koster, O Ryan (WFL), P Delaney, M White, M Greenwood. LONDON IRISH: Tries: Hennessey, S Goodenough, G Davis, R Smith, N Corcoran, P Burke, B Saunders, N Donohue, M Paddy, A Hayes, P Collins, G Hall, M Kavanagh, D Pegler, B Robinson. Referee: C Hines (London).

## Richards shows Lions selectors world-class form

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

DEAN Richards played so commanding and influential a game for Leicester before two of the British Isles selectors at Welford Road on Saturday that he must have cemented his role as No. 8 for the Lions against New Zealand this summer.

After Leicester won the Courage Clubs Championship match against Orrell 9-0, Des Seabrook, the Orrell coach, said: "How England can leave out that man, I cannot begin to understand." Richards worked assiduously at tidying up, covering, setting up and driving.

Lley kicked three penalty goals but the Leicester full back and Ainscough, of Orrell, each missed four penalties in a match ridden with errors.

The famed Gloucester roar was muted at Kingsholm on Saturday as Bath won 20-0, from a try by Swift, and five penalty goals, by Webb. It was Swift's 350th career try, which is claimed as a world record for any player still in active service.

Gloucester are in a sticky state, even though Keith Richardson, their coach, was adamant: "We are not a dying man. We have lost to the best side in the country but it was not a hammering. We know we have to win our next two matches to stay up."

Cair and Sanders were standing in for Barnes and Hill, Bath's injured internationals, but the fact that the champions were restricted to 20 points was a testimony to Gloucester's fighting spirit and resolute tackling.

West Hartlepool's place in the first division looks in grave peril after Saturday's 10-3 home defeat by Saracens. Saracens' greater pace brought tries for O'Leary and Crawley, but they are still favourites to be relegated.

Rugby are surely already consigned to demotion after their 13-7 home defeat by Northampton.

A 30-yard try by Carling was the highlight of Harlequins' 16-0 win over Bristol at the Stoop ground.

Paul Grayson, the Waterloo stand-off half, left the field on a stretcher and The Reddings in an ambulance on Saturday, but not before he had kicked the four penalty goals that took his season league tally to 97 points and secured his side's place at the top of the second division. For Mosley, Jim Reed-Daunter managed only three out of seven.

Seven minutes from the end, Grayson lost consciousness and swallowed his tongue. Nick Allott, the dub captain, said yesterday that he spoke to Grayson before he left for hospital and that he seemed cheerful enough, "although if concussion is confirmed we have to accept he will miss the cup game [on February 27] against Harlequins."

Nottingham, with three penalty goals from Gregory, slipped out of the championship race thanks to a five for Bedford by Fimrie. It seems that only Newcastle Goshforth, who beat Richmond 21-9, can head off Waterloo.

## Ireland lose two more

IRELAND'S injury-hit team was further weakened for the five nations' championship match next Saturday against France in Dublin when Brian Robinson and Philip Lawlor withdrew yesterday (David Hands writes).

Robinson has not recovered from a knee injury and Lawlor, who has a shoulder injury, Pat O'Shea will play on the blind-side flank and Mick Galwey, eight of whose nine caps have been at lock, plays No. 8.

Steven McGinty, of Bangor, joins the replacements, but yesterday's training at Lansdowne Road was disrupted

further because Neil Francis and Terry Kingston were carrying injuries.

Scotland, preparing to meet Wales, were hardly in better shape: Gavin Hastings, the captain, and Craig Chalmers were affected by a strained Achilles tendon and a bruised thigh respectively and Derek Turnbull (injured) and Gary Armstrong (unavailable) missed training.

Wales, meanwhile, must see whether Mike Hall, the Cardiff centre, recovers from the groin strain that kept him out of the defeat by Llanelli on Saturday.

## WEEKEND RUGBY UNION RESULTS AND TABLES

COURAGE CLUBS Championship									
First division									
GLoucester	0	BATH	20	Cardiff	13	Llanelli	18	Worcester	10
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## Scant threat to The Fellow's Gold Cup claims on latest evidence



Waiting game: Mark Dwyer bides his time on Jodami (left) before pouncing on Peter Scudamore and Chatam at Leopardstown yesterday

## Jodami's victory fails to impress

FROM RICHARD EVANS,  
RACING CORRESPONDENT,  
IN DUBLIN

JODAMI beat Chatam by a head in a thrilling finish to yesterday's Hennessy Cognac Irish Gold Cup, but the outcome served only to underline the chances of The Fellow winning next month's Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Leaving aside the fact that no winner of the Leopardstown race has gone on to Cheltenham glory, it is hard to see how either of the English chasers can hope to stop the French raider on March 18.

Chatam, off the course since November but putting in his best ever round of jumping, took the lead two fences out. Mark Dwyer, who followed him through on Jodami,

waited until after the last before throwing down his challenge. He deliberately refrained from using his whip and Jodami ground Chatam down inside the final 50 yards. General Idea, who has difficulty staying three miles, was a distance away in third.

To underline the task facing the pair when they take on Francois Doumen's star next month, Jodami finished only six lengths ahead of the French chaser in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury in November when receiving 25lb. Chatam finished one and a half lengths behind The Fellow having received 9lb.

Peter Bealmon, the trainer of Jodami, was the first to admit that Doumen will be quaking in his boots. "Not on form," he said. But

we can improve a bit between now and Cheltenham. Whether it is enough remains to be seen, but if it is a race like today's it will be great.

Chatam, still relatively inexperienced over fences, made only one minor error, five out.

**RICHARD EVANS**

**Nap: DILLEACHTA (3.30 Hereford)**

**Next best: Barria (2.30 Hereford)**

and showed no tendency to veer left as his fences as he has done in the past. A flat track seems to bring out the best in him, but as Peter Scudamore pointed out afterwards: "You can argue that The Fellow is not as good round Cheltenham as he is round a flat track."

Scudamore now has to decide which of Pipe's three Gold Cup hopefuls to ride, Run For Free, Rushing Wild or Chatam. Bookmakers shortened The Fellow to about 6-4, leaving Jodami at second favourite on 4-1 and Chatam at 10-1.

Martin Pipe refused to travel to Leopardstown yesterday in protest at the treatment of himself and Scudamore following the disqualification of Milford Quay from a valuable novice chase at Punchestown in April. Due to an error by the clerk of the scales, who read Milford Quay's weight from an inaccurate list, the Pipe horse carried 4lb less than his correct weight. Despite being disqualified,

Milford Quay's connections were given the prize-money. However, the shares initially given to Pipe and Scudamore were subsequently withdrawn by Irish racing authorities.

Chester Barnes, assistant to Pipe, said yesterday: "Martin is very upset by the weights mix-up and he has sworn never to come racing in Ireland again or enter horses here unless the owners insist."

While Pipe undoubtedly has reason to feel aggrieved, it must be hoped the dispute can be resolved swiftly, especially as the Irish Turf Board, the Racing Board, and the Irish government are campaigning to tempt British-trained horses and racing fans to Ireland.

Officials from the Irish Racing Board were made aware of the Pipe boycott yesterday and are expected to intervene.

## Alner plans bid for Times series

POINT-TO-POINT  
BY BRIAN BEEL

MR MURDOCK extended his winning sequence to nine in the open at the South Dorset on Saturday. It was on Mr Murdock, at Coley last season, that Robert Alner rode his 200th winner between the flags and this success gave the reigning champion his sixth victory of the season.

Alner is now 5-4 on for this year's title but Mr Murdock may not be making many more contributions as he is now going hunter chasing. Brian Nettley, his owner, said: "The Times race is the one we want to go for but I'm leaving the planning of his programme to Robert."

Expanding on the theme, Alner added: "The intention is to enter him in the Tamworth qualifier but first we'll probably go to Flockstone in a fortnight's time."

On an afternoon of ten races, the same owner's Rowing Report completed a double for Alner in the third of four restricted races. "The horse we went to buy at the Ascot June sales was too expensive," Nettley said. "But Robert liked this one so we came back with him."

The six-year-old cost 5,000 guineas and could be a bargain. He comfortably followed up his maiden win at Tweseldown a fortnight ago.

However, Alner readily admitted that neither success gave him as much pleasure as seeing his 18-year-old daughter, Louise, ride her second winner. Her mount, Betty Hayes, captured badly-fenced out but recovered to beat Enchanting River, ridden by Jennifer Lister.

The South Hantsborough Hunt Club meeting was dominated by Caroline Saunders, who saddled five winners.

Results, page 20

## PLUMPTON

THUNDERER

- 1.50 Castle Courageous. 3.20 Gunner's Flight.  
2.20 Fred Splendid. 3.50 ASKINARNEY (nap).  
2.50 Masroug. 4.50 Sweet George.  
Brian Beel: 3.20 Gunner's Flight.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES)

## 1.50 SHEPHERD PARK NOVICES HURDLE (€1,475; 2m 10) (7 runners)

- 1 11 CASTLE COURAGEOUS 85 (€5) (J. J. Murphy) 11-12 E. Murphy 96  
2 10-0072 MARCOPOLO 13 (€5) (J. J. Murphy) 11-12 E. Murphy 96  
3 10-0073 MARCOPOLO 13 (€5) (J. J. Murphy) 11-12 E. Murphy 96  
4 10-0074 MARCOPOLO 13 (€5) (J. J. Murphy) 11-12 E. Murphy 96  
5 10-0075 MARCOPOLO 13 (€5) (J. J. Murphy) 11-12 E. Murphy 96  
6 10-0076 MARCOPOLO 13 (€5) (J. J. Murphy) 11-12 E. Murphy 96  
7 10-0077 MARCOPOLO 13 (€5) (J. J. Murphy) 11-12 E. Murphy 96

FORM FOCUS

CASTLE COURAGEOUS beat Fred Splendid 2m 10 in a novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m, good to soft) on Saturday. He was ridden by J. J. Murphy. He was a 10-1 favourite and won by 10 lengths. He was a 10-1 favourite and won by 10 lengths.

FORM FOCUS

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The appointments are held for a period of three years, but may be extended. The principal obligations are that the Professors lecture, in each of the two semesters of the year on aspects of the disciplines which they represent, to bring to a general audience an awareness of the progress in and significance of their field. Six lectures each year are required; opportunities exist for support to be given to research activities in which the Professors are engaged. An honorarium of £3,000 p.a. is payable.

Further particulars are available from the Provost, Gresham College, Bernard's Inn Hall, Holborn, London EC1N 2HR. Tel: 071-831 0375 Fax: 071-831 5208.

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 10th March 1993.

## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

### PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

The University of Edinburgh wishes to appoint a successor to Sir David Smith FRSE, who has indicated his retirement from the posts of Principal and Vice-Chancellor with effect from 31 December 1993. The University, founded in 1583, has a high academic reputation as one of the foremost research institutions in Europe. In appointing a successor to Sir David Smith the University is seeking an individual of exceptional calibre to provide academic and executive leadership.

The Nomination Committee, chaired by The Hon. Lord Clyde, now invites applications from individuals of suitable background and experience. The Committee would also like to hear from individuals wishing to suggest names for consideration.

All communications, including applications, should be directed in confidence and not later than 19 March 1993 to: THE SECRETARY TO THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE, M J B LOWE, BSc, PhD, THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, OLD COLLEGE, SOUTH BRIDGE, EDINBURGH EH8 9YL, from whom further information is available.

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## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

### The University of Sheffield

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Applications are invited for appointment to the James Rossiter Hoyle Chair of Music which becomes available from 1 September 1993 following the retirement of Professor E J C Garden.

The University is seeking to appoint a scholar with a distinguished record of musical research and considerable administrative experience. Expertise as a performer will not be a requirement but applicants should be sympathetic towards practical performance as an element in the University music course, and to the study of historical performance as a subject for research.

Further particulars from the Director of Personnel Services, The University of Sheffield, PO Box 594, Fifth Court, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2UH. Tel: 0742 824144.

to whom applications should be sent by 12 March 1993. Ref: B2101

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Applications are invited for the Chair of Common Law which is vacant as a result of the retirement of Professor A.H. Hudson in 1992.

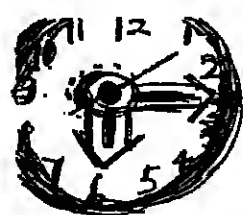
The person appointed will be expected to provide academic leadership in Common Law or in a field related to Common Law.



# EDUCATION

## Teachers must learn to play safe

Streetwise pupils have found that they can use the Children Act to make the lives of school staff a misery. Ben Preston reports



It was over in seconds. Douglas Alder, a classroom teacher for almost three decades, watched the squabble between two boys turn into a fight. Without thinking he stepped in to push them apart. "One child was damaging another. As a teacher, as a responsible adult, I could not just ignore it and let it happen," he says.

Mr Alder (not his real name) vows he will never again make the mistake of trying to break up a classroom fracas. The boy who started the fight subsequently filed a complaint claiming he was hit and hurt in the intervention.

It took Mr Alder five months to get off the whirling disciplinary carousel set in motion by the allegation. On the strength of the word of one pupil — a known troublemaker — a teacher became the subject of a police investigation for child abuse and was suspended from his job for 14 weeks.

Such cases have increased dramatically since the Children Act became law a little more than a year ago. The act was primarily designed to protect individual children in "at risk" families and pupils in residential and special schools, a response to the Jasmine Beckford and Staffordshire pin-down scandals. It made protection of the child paramount, and put the onus firmly on treating all allegations seriously. However, concern is mounting at its impact on ordinary, neighbourhood schools and the fundamental change it is bringing to the relationship between teacher and pupil.

Allegations of abuse against members of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) have tripled to more than 50 since the act came into force, without any rise in the number of teacher convictions. Other unions have recorded similar increases. Teachers have been suspended after allegations arising from such commonplace incidents as encouraging a child to sit down by gently pushing him, or her, shoulder or physically preventing a pupil from running away from a telling off. In most cases, often after

months at home pending criminal investigations, or official enquiries by social workers and local authorities, they are exonerated.

As a result, the resounding welcome that greeted the Children Act is giving way to anxiety. Gill Sage, the ATL's solicitor, points to the apparent confusion among headteachers, the police and others in authority about the meaning of abuse — a loaded term with sinister connotations. They are apt to err on the side of caution by suspending teachers and ordering investigations of incidents which were never meant to be covered by the act, she says. "It is not a suitable weapon in the course of ordinary events at most schools. Separating fighting children should never be regarded as child abuse, it is a disciplinary matter for children, not for teachers."

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, says that his members feel they are in a "heads you win, tails I lose situation". Heads are vulnerable to accusations of incompetence if they are not seen to respond quickly to allegations. "Yet when heads act with speed and suspend teachers, there are complaints saying they raised the temperature unnecessarily before conducting more detailed investigations."

Most worrying is the emergence of streetwise children who have realised that by making malicious allegations of abuse against teachers they can deflect attention from their misdemeanours. "It seems to be a sad reflection upon society that an act which is so desperately needed by all children at risk can be such a dangerous weapon in the hands of the few," Ms Sage says.

Teachers' vulnerability is such that all six unions are joining in a rare display of unity to advise teachers how to minimise the risk. It is this response to the Children Act which threatens to change classroom relations irrevocably.

An advisory code devised by the ATL signposts the road ahead. It warns teachers that they could face complaints of emotional abuse if a



child is restrained or disciplined too strongly, or allegations of physical abuse if they are too caring or demonstrative. Telling down young children after swimming, touching or embracing a pupil to try to console can all leave teachers open to allegations of sexual abuse.

If teachers are involved in a one-to-one situation, in a tutorial or music lesson, for example, the code advises that they ensure it is within school time and in the vicinity of other teachers and pupils. "Senior colleagues should be made aware of the nature, purpose and location of the meeting. If possible a door

should remain open and there should be a desk between the pupil and teachers." Teachers are also warned not to become too involved with a pupil's personal problems.

The days when teachers and pupils could develop friendships appear numbered. "Total professionalism is demanded where before there might have been familiarity. Under no circumstances must a teacher cross the boundary and offer physical comfort for fear it is misconstrued," Ms Sage says.

Such draconian advice comes too late for some and is unlikely to help others. Graham Wilkins (not his

real name) caught a 12-year-old boy queue-jumping in the rush for lunch. "I just put my hand on his chest and moved towards the back of the line. I thought nothing of it. I could have done the same that lunchtime to any of 600 pupils."

The boy later went to the police and claimed he had pushed in the chest, suffered marks to his neck and found it difficult to swallow for several days.

"For two-and-a-half months I had the stress and worry hanging over me while a groundless allegation, with no supporting evidence, was investigated to the letter and allowed

to run its course," says Mr Wilkins, a teacher for 17 years. "Even when it came to nothing, the fear is that it is a stain on your career, written in black and white somewhere."

For Mr Alder, the experience was searing. When the Crown Prosecution Service ruled he had no case to answer, the school instigated its own disciplinary hearing. He was cleared of gross misconduct but received a formal written warning for using "unreasonable restraint". Worn down by the events, but still protesting his innocence, Mr Alder decided not to appeal so that his life might return to normal.

## Saved by the parents

An independent school has been given a fresh lease of life

Many independent schools pride themselves on taping parental expertise, but Shebbear College, in north Devon, has placed its very survival in their hands.

The 150-year-old Methodist school was threatened with closure next September because of heavy financial losses. The governors announced without warning in December that the college, where fees are about £9,000 a year, would be merged with Edgell College, a sister school for girls at Bideford, 12 miles away.

Shebbear's debts were understood to be in the region of £700,000 and the number of boarders had declined from about 270 in the mid-1970s to 119. Amalgamation with Edgell, allowing Shebbear's 100-acre estate to be sold, was seen as the only way to stem continuing losses.

Parents and old boys had other ideas, however. They launched a campaign to save the school, and persuaded the governors to postpone a final decision until a rescue package could be produced. Advertising and the entrance examination were reinstated.

The recommendations of a six-strong review committee were produced in little more than a month, and accepted by the church last week. A new look Shebbear is to survive, with the committee members co-opted onto the board of governors.

Old boys who attended the school's annual reunion in London applauded as the headmaster, Russell Bulky, promised to implement a cost-cutting package while maintaining the school's reputation. Administrative ties with the Methodist church will be loosened, and up to ten of the 96 staff will lose their jobs.

However, Dr Peter Vardy, who has five children at the school and who first proposed the establishment of a review committee, insists that the changes will be primarily educational. More use will be made of the spectacular rural location, for example through the addition of a riding school. Extra subjects will be added at A level, and new links forged with Europe.

Dr Vardy says: "It would have cost more than £1 million to close the school, but we can make it financially viable with some savings. We hope to provide an educational package which will get the very best out of the pupils."

JOHN O'LEARY

### CORRECTION

Harrogate Ladies' College no longer includes hats in its uniform, as incorrectly stated in an article on January 4.

## Don't fund apartheid

Muslim-only state schools could be ethnically divisive

As the education bill proceeds through Parliament, there is one matter of the greatest importance that has not yet been adequately debated. In the long term, I believe the matter is of greater importance than opting out or the endlessly discussed state of the economy.

I refer to the prospect of Muslim schools in the state sector. Racial and religious harmony are vital for the future, and I believe that the setting up of Muslim schools under the education act would be a disaster.

Many Muslims recognise that their interests are best served by integration into British society, and would agree that such schools would be as much against their interests as against the interests of the rest of society.

Because most Muslims come from the ethnic minorities, the schools would in practice become ethnically as well as religiously divisive. We would be deliberately building apartheid into our schools and into our society. Instead of harmony and integration we would have division and strife.

It is argued that because we have Christian and a few Jewish schools it is only fair to have Muslim schools. The argument deserves an answer and I shall try to answer it in two ways.

First, it is an historical fact that we have many Christian schools from the days when we were a Christian nation and when the churches founded many of our great schools. These schools are a rich part of our national inheritance, and we cannot simply disinherit them or wish them away. They are a reminder that Christianity remains a foundation of our culture and our civilisation.

Secondly, to be fair and consistent towards the Mus-

lims and recognising that we are now a secular state, perhaps we should approve no more religious schools of any denomination in the state sector.

There are two other dangers with Muslim schools. Some Muslims regard girls as less important than boys. This raises the issue of less equal opportunities. There is, too, the danger that while Muslim schools would be subject to the national curriculum, some might gradually give priority to the teaching of Islam in preference to that curriculum.

Theoretically, the system of published results and inspections would discover any such trend.

but there would be a great and real danger that the authorities would back off from a confrontation which might prove inflammable — after all, in the past they backed off from criticising rotten school performance.

One of the serious concerns of the Muslim community is its desire for single-sex schools for its adolescent daughters. I think this is a valid aim that should be met by the provision of more single-sex schools. I am aware of many different views on this subject and that such provision would obviously unbalance the co-educational system.

Of course, religious bodies should be free to operate their own privately funded schools and, of course, Islam and other religions should be taught in state schools. However, to allow state-funded Muslim schools would be a disaster. Have we learnt nothing from our own success in achieving greater integration and tolerance than our continental neighbours?

If we lack the courage to prohibit this unnecessary proposal, we will reap the whirlwind in the future.

The author is a Birmingham city councillor

### VIEWPOINT

James Hutchings

## Every story has two sides

The debate over selection and parental choice has been brought to a head by two schools in Cumbria

There can be few more vivid examples of government education policy in action than the intense competition that has developed between Penrith's two secondary schools.

For the past two years, teachers at Ullswater High School have been preparing for the introduction of the pre-university examination system, the International Baccalaureate. The organisation which oversees the two-year course has accepted Ullswater's application, and funding has been agreed. All the scheme now needs is permission from John Patten, the education secretary.

The school, a comprehensive which teaches pupils up to the age of 16, has been waiting for more than a year to learn whether it can add on a sixth form. The decision has been a long time coming because the situation is not straightforward. Ullswater High is one of two schools at the heart of a selection debate.

For years, Ullswater acted as a secondary modern to Pen-

rith's Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (QEGS). Teachers at Ullswater would select 40 per cent of their brightest pupils to go to QEGS from the age of 13. In 1990, when David Robinson became head of Ullswater, he stopped the practice. "We were not only losing the cream, if you like, but a good deal of the milk as well," he says.

In January of last year, just after Ullswater made its application to have its own sixth form, QEGS opted out and applied to take pupils from the age of 11 and not 13, as it had done previously. QEGS school also wants to select pupils on the basis of academic ability.

Both schools cover the same 500 square mile catchment area. Mr Patten has to decide on the age range of each school and on whether to allow QEGS to become selective. If he allows QEGS to select, Ullswater will effectively

revert to being an old-style secondary modern. Should this happen, its plans to teach the International Baccalaureate, which many consider to be more demanding than the equivalent three A levels, may be dented. The education department will not say when the decisions will be made.

Donald Fay, the head of QEGS, says that despite some local opposition to the idea of selection, no one has come up with any other means of dealing with over-subscription to his school. He sees selection, on the basis of school reports and work produced by pupils, as the logical answer.

Mr Robinson feels that the plans for his 1,200-pupil school are simply following on from the government's own commitment to post-16 education. Last Thursday the school held a further education convention for its 15-year-olds at which they signed up for International Baccalaureate courses. "We are challenging Mr Patten to give us the go-ahead to bring in his own policies," he says. "We have embarked on a programme that is now unstoppable in terms of promises made to young people and their parents. We will not go back on promises to our community."

The ethos of the school — of "broad education for the whole human being" — made the adoption of the International Baccalaureate "inevitable", he says. Ullswater will be the first school in Cumbria to adopt the system, whereby pupils follow six subjects and a range of other activities. Only 27 other schools in Britain offer the exam.

"This school is fighting to make parental choice a reality," Mr Robinson says. "The real issue here is whether schools choose parents and pupils or parents and pupils choose schools. We're asking the secretary of state for a level playing field so that parents can choose the school they want."

Parental support so far has been good. Hilary Lanham, the school's International Baccalaureate co-ordinator, expects 20 pupils to start the exam this September and up to 80 next year.

Geyve Walker, a parent governor at the school, says that there was a "very strong desire for a fully functioning sixth form" among parents.

He says that when it was suggested that the transfer of pupils to QEGS at 13 should be stopped, and the switch made at 16 instead, parents

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He says that when it was suggested that the transfer of pupils to QEGS at 13 should be stopped, and the switch made at 16 instead, parents

wanted that if their children were to do GCSEs at Ullswater, they wanted them to stay on there for sixth-form studies. "Now," he says, "the school is seen as a clear alternative to the old grammar school."

The decision to offer the International Baccalaureate may be a sensible one, because it offers something new. It is still a brave one, however, for a school which has traditionally been seen as second choice for the area's academically inclined pupils.

Mr Robinson says: "Education needs a bit of bravery. History teaches us either to wait until the powers that be give the orders to march, or decide that something is so important that you start marching and wait for them to catch up."

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Attenborough was in the 623568.

Brave choice: Hilary Lanham talks to pupils at Ullswater High School.

with a deft harmonic sidestep, and thus elongating phrases into whole paragraphs.

Slightly less credit for the way they sang the mass. Some voices, particularly among the







[illegible]











## Portfolio

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Glenamara R.A.	Mining	
2	Hutch Whamp	Business Serv	
3	Concor	Mining	
4	Silva Water	Water	
5	Leclac	Mining	
6	Total Systems	Electrical	
7	Suter	Industrial	
8	Capita Group	Business Serv	
9	Smithline	Industrial	
10	Alendia W	Industrial	
11	Highland Dist	Breweries	
12	Allied Collieries	Chemicals	
13	Moscow D	Building	
14	Hadfield Inds	Industrial	
15	Cadbury-Schw	Food	
16	Manders	Building	
17	Midlands Elect	Electrical	
18	National Power	Electricity	
19	Alcon	Electrical	
20	P & P	Electrical	
21	McAlpine (A)	Building	
22	Nichol (N)	Food	
23	Remshaw	Food	
24	Nirvana Fd	Food	
25	Manthorpe	Breweries	
26	Amalgamated	Industrial	
27	Coleman	Drugs	
28	Concor	Business Serv	
29	Smithline	Industrial	
30	BWD	Finance	
31	Flint	Industrial	
32	E Daga	Mining	
33	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
34	LWT CP	Leisure	
35	Bilton	Property	
36	Vincent	Industrial	
37	Crest Nicholson	Industrial	
38	Paragon Zoch	Chemicals	
39	West Weymouth	Chemicals	
40	Exp Cos Ltd	Oil, Gas	

Please take into account any minus signs.

## £1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

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Five winners equally share the Portfolio Plus prize of £2,000. They are Mr J. Harvey, Wrexham; Mr A. Smith, Heston; Mrs F. Dibble, Heston; Mrs S. Buckley, Chester; Mr J. Wilson, London.

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## BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
4465 Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
12740 Abbey Nat	127	+11	105	39	122	
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12740 Abbey Nat	127	+11	105	39	122	
12740 Abbey Nat	127	+11	105	39	122	
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12740 Abbey Nat	127	+11	105	39	122	

## BREWERIES

Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
51360 Allied Ym	350	+13	105	44	122	
51360 Allied Ym	350	+13	105	44	122	
51360 Allied Ym	350	+13	105	44	122	
51360 Allied Ym	350	+13	105	44	122	
51360 Allied Ym	350	+13	105	44	122	
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51360 Allied Ym	350	+13	105	44	122	
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## BUILDING, ROADS

Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
3630 Abbey	95	+5	105	39	122	
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6	Total Systems	Electrical	
7	Suter	Industrial	
8	Capita Group	Business Serv	
9	Smithline	Industrial	
10	Alendia W	Industrial	
11	Highland Dist	Breweries	
12	Allied Collieries	Chemicals	
13	Moscow D	Building	
14	Hadfield Inds	Industrial	
15	Cadbury-Schw	Food	
16	Manders	Building	
17	Midlands Elect	Electrical	
18	National Power	Electricity	
19	Alcon	Electrical	
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24	Nirvana Fd	Food	
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3630 Abbey	95	+5	105	39	122	
3630 Abbey	95	+5	105	39	122	
3630 Abbey	95	+5	105	39	122	

## Capitalisation, week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end February 26. Settlement day March 1. Settlement day March 8. Forward margins are permitted on two previous business days. Prices rounded to the nearest pence. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Mkt Cap	Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	

## ELECTRICITY

Mkt Cap	Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	

## FINANCE, LAND

Mkt Cap	Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	

## FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Mkt Cap	Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	

## FOODS

Mkt Cap	Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	

## HOTELS, CATERERS

Mkt Cap	Company	Price	Wtd	Yld	Div	Yld	P/E
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	
1.1400	Abbey Nat	354	+11	105	39	122	



# Too many doctors hurt health of small firms

Government help for small business is a confusing and inefficient mess resulting in considerable waste of official funds

By Derek Harris

TRAINING and Enterprise Councils (TECs) and one-stop shops — the government's latest method of helping small businesses — are sharply criticised in a new study.

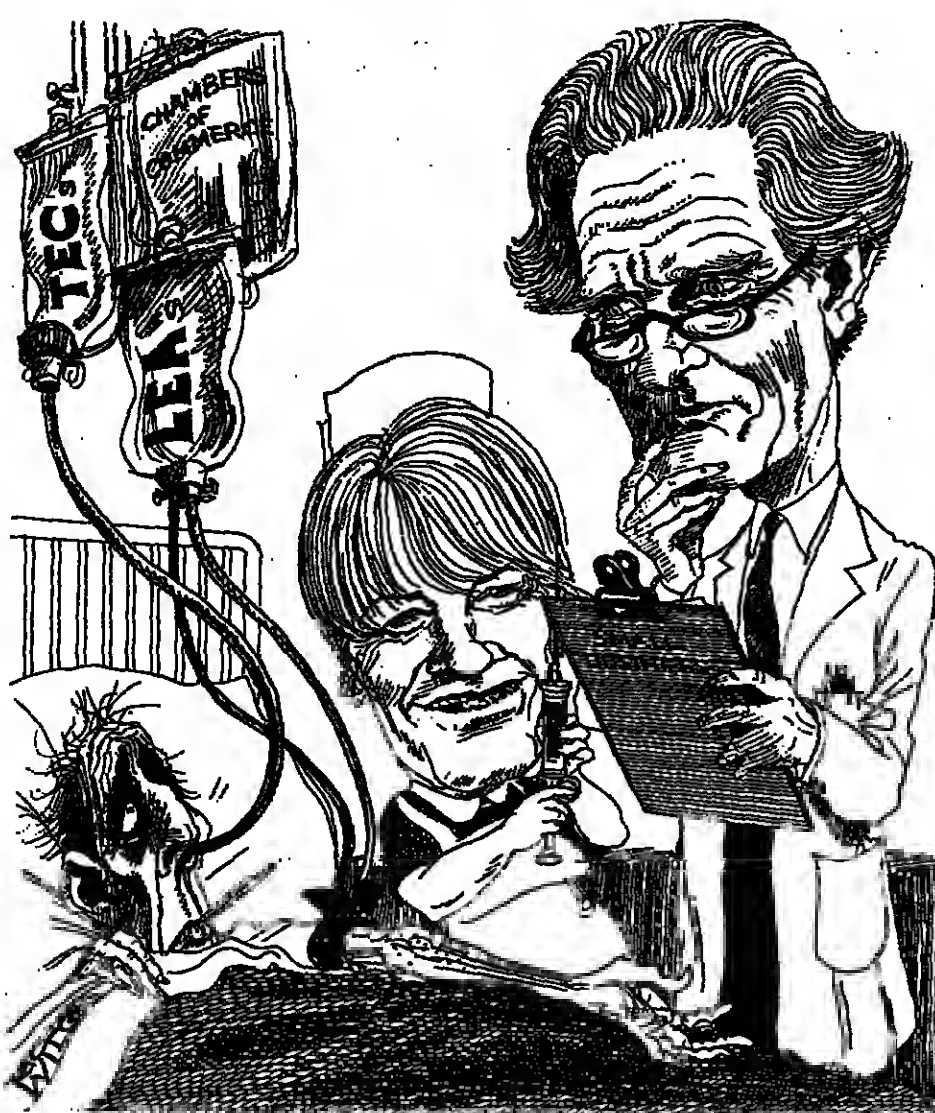
The authors, Robert Bennett and Andrew McCoshan, of the London School of Economics, call for support for business on the pattern found in mainland Europe, through strong chambers of commerce. They give a warning that British business, especially small firms, will otherwise be at "a great disadvantage" in the single market.

In Britain, there are so many helping hands for small businesses that the result is "a confusing and inefficient mess", the study says. "Services on offer are usually fragmented and leave many gaps. As a result, much money is wasted."

TECs, the report maintains, have tended to make matters worse: the one-stop shops, launched last July with a fanfare from Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, are described as being "flawed from the start", because they will get only short-term government funding.

Over the past 12 months or so, the TECs have been thrust by government into a scene where local providers of advice for small businesses include some 300 local enterprise agencies (LEAs) and the national network of more than 90 chambers of commerce. There are 82 TECs in England and Wales and some counterpart bodies, the LECs, in Scotland.

TECs have tended to make things worse by adding another agency that overlaps and competes with the existing providers such as the LEAs and chambers, the report says. Yet when the TECs "were launched, there were hopes in government that they would



New treatment: Lady Denton and Michael Heseltine are setting up one-stop shops

draw together the efforts to help young and start-up firms. The report acknowledges that the trade department appears to have recognised the problem by developing the concept of the one-stop shop. These, with TECs heavily involved, are expected to create a single contact point for all forms of small business aid.

Baroness Denton, the small firms minister at the elbow of Mr Heseltine, expects by the spring to have 15 pilot launches of one-stop shops. There have been 57 applications to run them and a decision on the location of the pilots will be made by the end of next month.

The strategy is to inject some government cash for an initial two years; additional financial support is expected from local sources. The one-stop shops would be expected gradually to become self-funding.

Two-year government funding falls short of European practice, the report points out. It adds: "TECs have little access to small firms and their co-operation with other agencies has still a long way to go."

It adds this warning: "Short-term finance is likely to lead to medium-term collapse. Our European competitors don't turn the tap for business support on and off."

The report examines Britain's network of chambers of commerce, saying they have developed "significantly" since the early 1980s, and

promise better quality and wider services in the future. But it adds: "Like most other enterprise agencies, they suffer considerable lack of resources and are adversely affected by not being part of a system that links them with other agencies into a coherent approach."

Britain needs something at least equivalent to local chambers of commerce elsewhere in Europe, which provide firms with high quality advice.

*Enterprise and Human Resource Development: local capacity building*, by R.J. Bennett and A. McCoshan, Paul Chapman Publishing, 144 Liverpool Road, London N1 1LA. £39.95 plus £3.52 post and packaging.

## Candidates for award see shares climb fast

By Martin Barrow  
City News Editor

LEISURE companies feature prominently in this year's shortlist for New Company of the Year in the Coopers & Lybrand PLC Awards, held in association with *The Times*.

Shares in Taunton Cider, which came to the market last July, have risen from 140p to 189p, or 36 per cent, giving the company a market capitalisation of £208.7 million. Taunton was jointly owned by Bass and Courage until May 1991, when three directors led a buyout. The company's brands include Blackthorn and Red Rock, and Taunton also makes retailers' own-label cider. Customers are mostly in the UK. This year, profits before tax are expected to rise from £7.4 million to £16.7 million.

JD Wetherspoon operates pubs in the London area. The company specialises in converting high street shops and commercial premises. Its shares, placed in October at 160p, have risen to 247p. Analysts expect profits of £4.1 million in the current year, up from £2.1 million previously. Since flotation, Wetherspoon has opened ten pubs, including one at Heathrow airport and three at Victoria station. The company aims for 200 pubs in the capital before expanding to other cities.

Shares in Doring Kindersley, which publishes high-quality illustrated reference books, have risen from an issue price of 165p to 295p. Microsoft, the American software giant, holds a 26 per cent stake. Microsoft's interest centres on Doring's new multimedia product range, which combines computer technology, sound, pictures and video. This year, pre-tax profits are expected to rise to £10.5 million from £7.5 million.

Fortis Ports emerged from the privatisation of Scotland's largest port operator. Shares were issued at 110p last March, when the company raised £31 million through a placing and intermediaries offer. The winner in this category will be announced at the PLC Awards on March 11 at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London. Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, will be the guest speaker.

## Glaxo looks to improved drug sales for profit rise

REPORTING THIS WEEK



Girolami: Zantac boost

Trust, Second Alliance Trust, Finalis: Amnec, Bering Tribune Investment Trust

### TOMORROW

Mark McVicar at NatWest Securities expects third-quarter pre-tax profits at British Airways, now headed by Sir Colin Marshall, to dive to £4 million, compared with underlying profit of £93 million last time. Market forecasts have a wide spread, ranging from £4 million to £50 million.

BA's profits will be depressed by a combination of factors. These include an estimated £20 million loss from Dan-Air, an anticipated decline in its average load factor, and an adverse currency hit, estimated to be between £30 million and £40 million.

Disposal profits should help Hanson. Lord Hanson's industrial conglomerate, to report a rise in first-quarter pre-tax profits to £240 million, against £226 million last time, according to UBS Phillips & Drew. Market forecasts range from £230 million to £240 million.



Hanson: disposal profits

### TODAY

Daigley, the Homebridge to Spillers and Golden Wonder foods and agribusiness group, is expected to report reasonable first-half profit growth despite tough trading conditions in some of its markets.

Julian Lakin, of Smith New Court, has pencilled in first-half pre-tax profits of £56 million, against £53.8 million last time. Market forecasts range from £55 million to £58 million. SNC expects earnings to edge up to 18.2p (18p) a share, while a maintained interim dividend of 7.5p is anticipated.

Interims: Daigley, GT Chile Growth Fund, Korea-Europe Fund, Mid Wind International Investment

million. P&D's forecast includes a £20 million disposal profit, so underlying pre-tax profits are therefore likely to be marginally down. P&D expects underlying earnings to show a 12 per cent fall to 3.4p a share, with the tax charge expected to rise from 18 per cent to 26 per cent as one-off benefits unwind.

Interims: Hanson (first quarter), Howard Holdings, Impale, Platinium Holdings, Finalis: British Airways (third quarter), County Securities Companies Investment Trust, Foster's Brewing Group, Greenwich Resources, St Modwen Properties, TR Pacific Investment Trust, Telford Investment Trust, Trust of Property Shares, Economic statistics: CBI survey of distributive trades (January), UK acquisitions and mergers (third quarter), public sector borrowing requirement (January), index of production (December), financing of the central government borrowing requirement (fourth quarter).

### WEDNESDAY

Interims: Fletcher Challenge, Latin American Capital, New Zealand Gas Investment Trust, North American Gas Investment Trust, Finalis: Fleming Fledgling, Mercury Docks and Harbour, Investment Trust, Vardon, Economic statistics: Retail sales (January).

### THURSDAY

Final pre-tax profits at Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, are expected to climb to £31 million, against £27.9 million last time, according to Julian Robbins, of Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Interims: Hanson (first quarter), Hanson's industrial conglomerate, to report a rise in first-quarter pre-tax profits to £240 million, against £226 million last time, according to UBS Phillips & Drew. Market forecasts range from £230 million to £240 million.

### FRIDAY

Interims: None announced. Finalis: Amicable, Nettle Enterprise Trust, Fidelity European Values, Foreign & Colonial, Pegasus, Investment Trust, Yeoman Investment Trust, Economic statistics: Manufacturers and distributors stocks (Q4 provision).

PHILIP PANGALOS

## Clothing market in decline

By Susan Gilchrist

THE clothing market fell nearly 2 per cent in 1992, and is 4 per cent lower in real terms than it was in 1988, according to Verdict, the retail consultant. Its report provides more bad news for retailers, after the latest retail price index showed a 4.6 per cent fall in clothing prices last month.

The squeeze on sales, particularly wages and rents, which have eroded the margins of clothing retailers. Although many have begun to bring costs under control, Verdict is still cautious about future trading conditions. It forecasts modest growth of 1 per cent in the coming year, driven primarily by increases in volume rather than prices as consumers continue to trade down and seek value for money. Some price inflation is expected in the second half of 1993.

Mark and Spencer and Burton, Britain's biggest clothing retailers, have increased their share of the market in the past year. M&S saw a rise of nearly 1 per cent to 16.2 per cent, while Burton increased its share from 10.7 per cent to 11.4 per cent.

## Pressure for higher yields will prove irresistible

The problems facing the gilts market are well known. There is an inflation threat from the combination of devaluation and (modest) economic recovery.

The sharp rise in producer input prices was a reminder of this and it is generally expected that underlying inflation will be above the government's target by the end of the year. The inflation tendencies of the UK economy have been suppressed but not removed by the recession.

Added to that is the weight of supply that the gilts market will have to bear in the coming financial year. Even on the government's own figures the outlook is grim, and net gilt issuance will be larger than institutional cash flow. Some estimates of the PSBR are much worse than the Autumn Statement projections. Our own view is closer to that of the Treasury at the moment.

One of the lessons of the past few years is that the PSBR is very sensitive to variations in GDP growth — as the surpluses of the late eighties and the deficits of the early nineties have shown. Forecasts of the demise of the

gilts market have been replaced by ones of explosive growth. Some recovery in the economy will at least limit the deterioration in the fiscal balance.

Nevertheless, even if the official near-term fiscal projections turn out to be correct, the gilts market faces an enormous task. Gilts sales of more than £1 billion a week will be difficult to absorb. Many, including ourselves, have concluded that long-dated gilt yields will need to rise as a result.

Is there nothing that might come to the Bank of England's rescue? Various white knights have been suggested. One is tax increases. Although many commentators are calling for these in the March Budget, they seem unlikely. With the PSBR at 7 per cent of GDP, they would need to be large. The obvious candidate to make serious inroads into the deficit is an increase in, or extension of, VAT. That would be a disaster at the moment. The fragile state of consumer confidence would be shattered by large tax increases. The government has another shot at it in December, and that is

another reason for doing nothing in March. The risk is that with only a slow recovery in prospect, even December might be too soon to take the sort of action called for by fiscal purists.

To many, expenditure cuts are the best way out of the problem ideologically, as well as economically. But cutting expenditure when unemployment is rising is a non-starter.

### The extent of the government deficit in the next financial year sets the market a tough challenge

The alternative approach is the one announced by Treasury secretary Michael Portillo: a review of the problem.

It is easy to be sceptical of the Portillo initiative — the gilts market was obviously unimpressed. This sort of review has been seen before and has yielded no tangible results. Even in the Conservative party, there appears to be no desire for a wholesale

slaughtering of sacred cows. Institutions could be forced to buy more gilts. There has been speculation that actuarial considerations will compel insurance companies and pension funds to reweight their portfolios away from equities towards bonds.

To some extent this has already happened — insurance companies were large buyers of gilts in the fourth quarter and this should have relieved pressure.

But the key point is that institutions will build up their gilts holdings. That will follow from what the Bank of England will need to do in the gilts market in the next financial year. At the moment, there are no signs that it will be forced to do so in the near term by prudential considerations.

The funding rules are likely to be changed in the Budget. It would have been better if the move had been made in a less panicky way in the Autumn Statement, but better late than never.

Two options are available. One is to move to financing, taking the clearing banks to take up some of the burden of gilt sales. The other is to underfund pragmatically, to

meet a money supply objective. The former is the more likely, though it carries the implication that the extent of underfunding will be outside official control.

Underfunding would alleviate the difficulty but not overcome it. The banks have not been especially large buyers recently, that would change if interest rates were to fall further, but there is the threat of higher base rates in the next financial year. The amount that the banks might buy could be within PSBR forecasts' margins of error.

Some of these things will help, especially the change in the funding rules (though that may be effectively discounted in current gilt prices). But the conclusion is inescapable: domestic investors will be required to buy much greater quantities of gilts than they have bought for years, against the background of rising core inflation. The equity bias that has characterised UK institutions' investment behaviour will need to change. There are no signs of that being done willingly at current yields.

JOHN SHEPPERD  
SG Worbury Securities

## Airtours bid ruling hangs in balance

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor



Crossland: keeping options open

THE future of a swathe of the British holiday industry should be decided this week, when the Office of Fair Trading rules on whether to refer Airtours' £205 million takeover bid for Owners Abroad to the monopolies commission.

The decision could go either way — to the chagrin of Airtours, which believed that it had the deal sewn up with the competition authorities when it launched its bid at the beginning of the year.

A meeting of the OFT's merger panel takes place today, and the recommendation will go to Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, later this week. Wednesday is the favoured choice for a final decision. The ruling is already a couple of weeks late, and further delay would require the suspension of the bid timetable by the City Takeover Panel.

Earlier, it is believed, the OFT thought the bid would raise few problems, given that it aims to merge the second and third biggest forces in the industry into a group comparable in size to the biggest, Thomson Holidays. But the OFT has apparent-

ly reconsidered after protests from the holiday industry. Those worried include independent tour operators — who fear being squeezed by a near-duopoly that would control perhaps 60 per cent of the market — the Consumers Association and a pressure group of MPs who have written to Sir Bryan Carsberg, the director-general of fair trading.

The OFT's decision to refer the matter to its full merger panel is one indication of its concern, which relates to the question of vertical integration — ownership of high street retail outlets by holiday operators.

There is also concern at the OFT over the future of Owners' seat broking operation, which provides charter flight seats to smaller tour firms. David Crossland, the Airtours chairman, has said only that he will consider the future of that business if his firm wins control.

The OFT's decision is therefore finely balanced. Should the bid be allowed to continue, Airtours will probably have to sweeten its terms, observers say.

### WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 36

#### TAMBOO

(a) In the war of 1914-18, a temporary rough shelter in a trench, adapted from Persian and Hindi *tombi* a tent. Wilfred Owen: "My servant & I ate the chocolate in the cold middle of last night, crouched under a drab tumbou, roofed with planks."

#### KNOPPER

(b) A kind of oak-gall caused by an insect of the genus *Cynips*. The best known European gall is that obtained from oak: "The best known European gall is that obtained from oak: knopper or acorn galls. There are various kinds of knoppers, Bohemia, Dalmatia and Serbia."

#### CERATODUS

(c) A popular name for the Australian lungfish, *Neoceratodus forsteri*, belonging to the order Diptheriformes; also, a genus of fossil fish related to this lungfish, from the Greek *keras*, kerat, horn + *odus*, a tooth: "The ceratodus, a fish with horns, which, though its fossil remains are scattered over the world, is now confined to two rivers in the south of Queensland, the Mary and the Burnett."

#### REGOLITH

(a) The unconsolidated solid material covering the bedrock of a planet, erroneously from the Greek *regos*, reg, blanket + *lithos*, stone: "The thick rocks at Tranquillity Base are covered by a 4-6 meter thick regolith or dust layer composed of local rock fragments and spheres or fragments of glass."

### SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Solution: black forced mate in three with 1... Qxh2! 2 Kxh2 Rho+ 3 Kg1 Rh1 mate.











## ECONOMIC VIEW 34

JANET BUSH ON THE  
NEED TO BALANCE  
JOBS AND INFLATION

# BUSINESS

MONDAY FEBRUARY 15 1993

TIME TO SHOP 34

TEMPUS SAYS LLOYDS  
MUST BUY TO  
CREATE MORE VALUE

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

## Ministers told not to let pound slump further

By JANET BUSH  
ECONOMICS  
CORRESPONDENT

THE government must prevent sterling from falling from current levels or run the risk that inflation will rise above the 4 per cent official target, the London Business School says in its latest economic outlook. It is important that last September's devaluation should not be the precursor of a general downward trend, the LBS says.

One of the report's authors is David Currie, the LBS's professor of economics. Professor Currie also sits on the government's independent forecasting panel, which met last week for the first time and is expected to present its report to the Chancellor this week.

The more interest rates are lowered, to stimulate recovery, the greater the risk that they will have to be raised either this year or in 1994, the report says. The authors suggest that the economy will move out of recession this year, with growth of about 1.4 per cent, but add that considerable problems remain with the public sector deficit and the balance of payments. Higher inflation remains a risk.

The LBS has raised its growth forecast by half a percentage point since October, because the government's approach on interest rates has been far less cautious than expected. It predicts that base rates will be cut by another percentage point, to 5 per cent, to coincide with the Budget on

■ Economic recovery will gather pace this year but there are severe problems still for the government to tackle, says a leading team of forecasters

March 16. However, the LBS believes that 5 per cent may prove to be the floor for interest rates, particularly if, "as rumoured, the prime minister has vetoed tax increases in the Budget for fear of derailing a fragile recovery".

If the trend in base rates is upwards by the end of the year — and the LBS predicts 6 per cent then, peaking at 9 per cent by the end of 1994 — underlying inflation can be contained at 4 per cent this year, but will rise to 5 per cent in 1994.

A positive surprise, the report says, has been the downward trend in wage settlements, currently running at about 3 per cent. As employment falls and productivity rises, companies are keeping tight control on labour costs. That will "permit a significant improvement in profits, which we see rising 10 per cent to 15 per cent a year".

A serious concern is the public sector deficit. The LBS forecasts a public sector borrowing requirement of £49.5 billion in fiscal 1993-4, compared with the £44 billion projection the government made in the autumn. The report says the only realistic way of tackling the deficit, which is structural in nature, is to raise taxes. It recommends, however, that this should wait

until the unified budget in December.

The LBS is also pessimistic on the current account, forecasting a deficit of £19.8 billion this year and £19.9 billion in 1994, up sharply from the £11.8 billion shortfall recorded in 1992 and exceeding the government's £15 billion forecast for this year. Exports are expected to do well over the next two years, helped by the devaluation, but imports will continue at a high level, both in volume and in price terms.

The impending recovery is likely to be different from previous ones, with the consumer remaining subdued and manufacturing industry providing the power. The report comments that a consumer-led recovery is not necessarily desirable and forecasts that consumption will rise by only 1 per cent this year.

Unemployment will remain high, despite recovery, according to the LBS. It is expected to hit 3.2 million this year and to decline gradually to 2.9 million by the end of 1996.

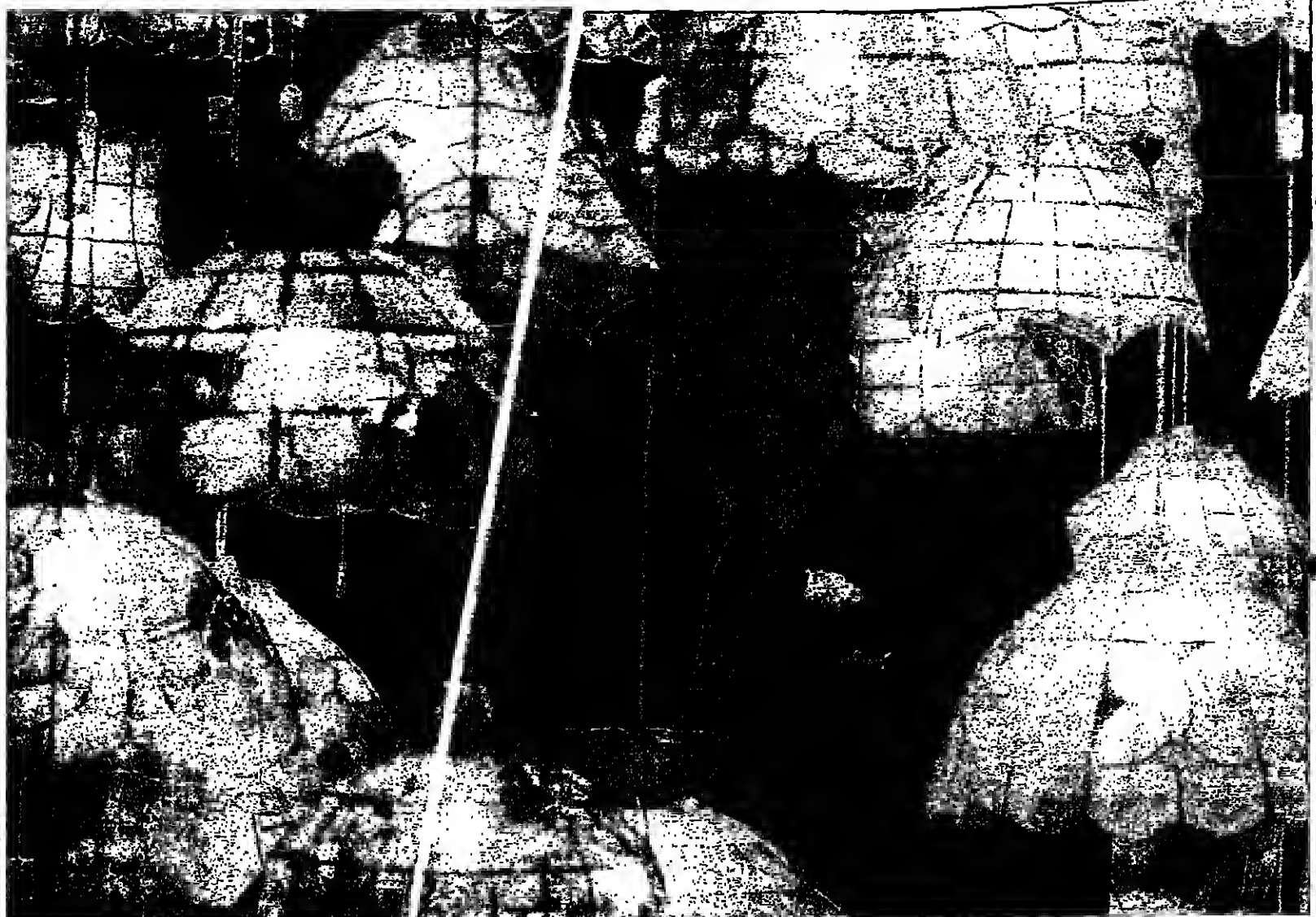
Building societies and the government are heading for a fundraising battle as both try to satisfy their requirements for 1993 (Sarah Bagnall writes).

The building societies are set to tap the wholesale market for fresh funds as a result of the £3.5 billion of existing debt that comes up for maturity during 1993. Of this debt, £2 billion is in the form of floating-rate notes and £1.5 billion in fixed-rate bonds.

Analysts expect the government to raise about £1 billion a week in the gilt market to finance the public sector borrowing requirement.

Gerald Gregory, treasurer at Britannia Building Society, said: "There is a finite pot of money available in the market and we are competing with the government for it."

Economic View, page 34



Casting a light on industry's problems: Kevin Verdon, chief executive of the Lighting Association, who yesterday called for an interest rate cut

### Interest rate cut needed to lighten work

By SARAH BAGNALL

BRITAIN'S £2 billion lighting industry is calling for a 1 per cent cut in base rates to help recovery in the recession-hit sector.

Kevin Verdon, chief executive of the Lighting Association, said interest rates needed to be cut further to bolster the "confidence of the man in the street". At the opening of The European Lightshow, at Earls Court, he added that for benefits to feed through to manufacturers the banks must pass on the interest rate cut immediately to customers, rather than delaying three months.

Mr Verdon also suggested that the government should adopt the German system of two separate rates, one for the manufacturing industry and one for borrowers generally.

More than 170 lighting companies are exhibiting at the show. About 20,000 people are expected to attend.

### Vickers loses \$3.5bn UAE order for tanks to France

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

VICKERS has lost out on another substantial Middle East market for its Challenger 2 tank after the award of a \$3.5 billion order from the United Arab Emirates for more than 400 tanks to France.

The Challenger 2 was known to be running in third place behind the Leclerc tank, made by France's state-owned GIAT Industries, and the American Abrams M1A2 made by General Dynamics Corp. Gamal al-Sinawi, UAE defence spokesman, announced the award at Abu Dhabi's first international defence exhibition, saying the emirates would take 390 first and second tanks and 46 spare parts and recovery vehicles.

Vickers played down the prospect of job losses as a result of the UAE decision, saying Opposition politicians claimed the future of the

company's two plants, in Newcastle and Leeds, could be at risk. Vickers said: "There will be no anticipated lay-offs — certain champions of our cause tend to be more aggressive than we would be. It's got to be a major disappointment, but in terms of the business at the moment we will survive."

Vickers had not expected to be successful, while the French had been seen as the probable winners, not least because of the UAE's preference for French arms and the substantial amounts its government has invested in helping develop a variant of the Leclerc that would use a German-made engine.

Vickers said: "Obviously we would like to see more major orders, but the two sites have enough work to keep them going — times are hard, but it's not going to be a fatal blow to either site." The slices em-

ploy 1,800 people between them. Vickers still has high hopes of selling its lighter Mark 7 tank, made at Newcastle and Leeds, to an African country, probably Nigeria, and for its Challenger armoured repair and recovery vehicle.

The company last year lost Kuwait's \$4.5 billion order for 256 tanks to General Dynamics' M1A2, although it did win a \$300 million deal to provide Challenger's repair and recovery vehicle.

David Clark, Labour's defence spokesman, said the loss of the UAE order was "very, very bad news indeed. It shows the folly of Vickers putting all their eggs in one basket and going for the Middle East market."

He added: "I will be taking the earliest opportunity to raise this with defence secretary Malcolm Rifkind in the Commons."

### Leyland DAF buyout team seeks backers

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

LEADERS of a proposed management buyout aimed at saving up to 1,400 jobs at the Birmingham van plant of Leyland DAF are today expected to begin the search for financial backers.

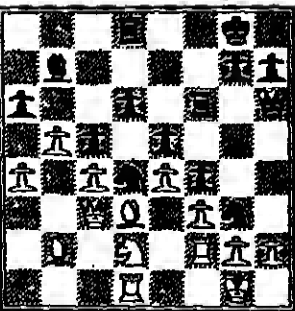
Allan Amey, managing director at Birmingham, said: "We have expressed our interest to the receivers and we believe we have got a sensible business plan that can be developed. We believe there is real demand for our product in the UK."

Tony Woodley, national motor group secretary of the TGWU, said: "I hope that even at this late stage the Department of Trade and City institutions will co-operate with any management buyout. In the interim, I appeal to all the van plant suppliers to continue supplying the factory in order to give it a fighting chance of survival."

### WINDING ROPE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Flückiger — Zoller, Switzerland 1992. Black has built up a powerful attacking position, and now won with a standard combination. Can you see how?



Solution on page 33

By PHILIP HOWARD

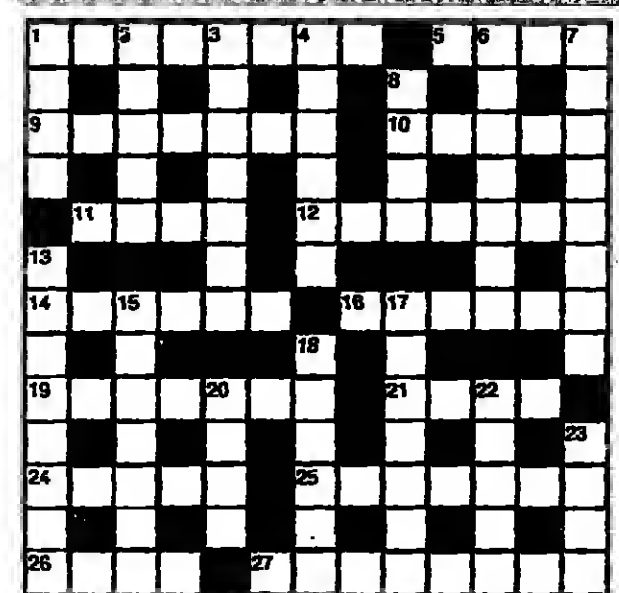
**TAMBOO**  
a. A rough shelter  
b. A tree god  
c. A bamboo guitar

**KNOPPER**  
a. A liver sausage  
b. An oak-gall  
c. Cut-de-sac at Eton Fives

**CERATODUS**  
a. With waxy ears  
b. The lugfish  
c. The unicorn

**REGOLITH**  
a. Unconsolidated solid material  
b. The Carling Jack  
c. A loudside

Answers on page 33



**ACROSS**  
1 Small toothed whale (8)  
5 Auction goods (4)  
9 Connecting service (7)  
10 Give off (5)  
11 Second Greek letter (4)  
12 Glossy coating (7)  
14 Brave (6)  
16 Highest British knight order (6)  
19 Cry out (7)  
21 Clenched hand (4)  
24 Underwater worker (5)  
25 Garbage (7)  
26 Gloomy (4)  
27 Brown (8)

**DOWN**  
1 Mail (4)  
2 Provoked (5)  
3 Australian bush (7)  
4 Record cover (6)  
6 Eye doctor (7)  
7 Group guide (8)  
8 Nobleman (4)  
13 Marvellous (8)  
15 Expose (7)  
17 Warm and friendly (7)  
18 Rudimentary state (6)  
20 Affected manners (4)  
22 Fence steps (5)  
23 Dull heavy sound (4)

**SOLUTIONS TO NO 3021**  
ACROSS: 1 Harmless 7 Skill 8 Shortlist 9 Lip 10 Egot 11 Skippy 13 Nestle 14 Global 19 Watery 20 Trio 21 Tea 23 Entre nous 24 Cowen 25 As it were  
DOWN: 1 Has-been 2 Rictus 3 Little 4 Sticky 5 Silly 6 Slope 7 Stumble 12 Flatzen 15 Bar code 16 Looksee 17 Grats 18 Stack 19 Waive 22 Seat

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### Ferry firms seek link to take on tunnel

By OUR DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE two operators that run the Dover-Calais ferry link have asked the government and the Office of Fair Trading to be allowed to co-operate in cutting the service to face up to competition from the Channel tunnel.

Up to half the ten vessels now operating between the two ports could go, some observers think, if the companies, P&O and the Swedish-owned Stena Sealink, gain the approval of the OFT to consolidate.

The alternative, both tell the government, is that one or other may decide to pull out entirely if the route is not sufficiently profitable once the

tunnel opens at the end of this year. Between them, the ferry firms employ almost 8,000 people on the Dover-Calais route.

Both companies are bound by fair trading legislation not to collaborate over how they operate. Yesterday, they renewed their attempts to have those rules set aside.

They have written to Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, and Sir Bryan Carr, the director-general of fair trading, asking for the lifting of undertakings that prevent them from co-operating. Two approaches to producers of the show, Mr Heseltine were rejected. Lord Sterling, the P&O chairman, said: "In management terms, time is extremely short if we are to effect the changes necessary for the task of providing a viable alternative to the tunnel. It is vital that we should be permitted to get ahead with this without delay."

Rudolph Agnew, the chairman of Stena Sealink, said: "What we need is a regular schedule to compete with the tunnel. Our schedules are now set for 1993. We don't know what form the co-operation will even take at the moment, and whatever we would be allowed to do would take a long time to set up."

As well as cutting back on the number of ferries crossing the Channel, the two are considering setting up a common marketing operation that would merge their existing booking systems under one roof. They are also upset over the amount of state help, in the form of transport links, that has been granted to the tunnel.

Mr Agnew added: "The tunnel is being supported directly and indirectly by government, British and French, in both road and rail investment. Simple justice and commercial logic suggest that now is the time to remove the hand-cuffs from the ferry companies."

It's often the case that the more you know the less you have to pay," Lady Cobham says, "which in a recessionary climate is even more important." So the wines in the tastings — unless clients specify something more spectacular — might range, as in a "wet run" on Wednesday, from an Old Triangle Riesling at £4.20 a bottle to a Santenay Premier Cru Beauregard Domaine Roger Ballard 1988, retailing at about £14.

### Perking up jaded executive palates

By VICTORIA MCKEE



Good cheer: Lady Cobham, offering help to bon viveurs

A NEW type of corporate incentive is being launched by Viscountess Cobham at her home, Hagley Hall in Worcestershire, this week.

It should appeal particularly to those paunchy proponents of the executive lunch who get cold feet at the prospect of more macho, outward-bound-type, team-building exercises.

Wines of the World, a tasting session for corporate bon viveurs who can't tell their muscats from their muscadels but are keen to try, is run by Conal Gregory, a former MP for York.

He is a Master of Wine who got to know Lady Cobham when they were both involved with tourism issues. She was a special adviser to David Mellor when he was at National Heritage.

She said: "With these wine tastings we are trying to create something new for

our regular clients who said: 'We've had a conference, we've had a murder evening, what else can you think of?'"

It involves helping jaded executive palates to distinguish between the types of wine they might encounter on an average restaurant wine list — and showing how to pick the best for the corporate dining room at moderate prices.

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